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BIGNONE COMMENTS ON REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY

PY251810 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1259 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] Buesnos Aires, 25 May (NA) -- President Reynaldo Bignone expressed his conviction today that the celebration of the anniversary of the May revolution next year will be held under the full exercise of the Constitution." [quotation marks as received]

"I hope that next 25 May will find the country immersed in the full exercise of the Constitution and in the union of all Argentines," Bignone stated, answering a question on his frame of mind on this national date.

"We are on the way to institutionalization for the greatness of the fatherland," the president stated shortly after the ceremony of hoisting the flag at Olivos Residence.

"This is the first and last 25 May under my presidential administration," Bignone stated.

AMBASSADOR TO SOVIET UNION PRAISES RELATIONS

PY251142 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2110 GMT 24 May 83

[Text] Moscow, 24 May (TELAM-TASS) -- Argentine Ambassador to the Soviet Union Ernesto de la Guardia today warmly praised the current status of relations between his country and the Soviet Union, pointing out as promising acts the inauguration of Aeroflot flights between Moscow and Buenos Aires and the sharp increase in bilateral trade values.

In declarations to a correspondent of the NOVISTI Soviet Press Agency on the occasion of Argentina's national day, the Argentine diplomat also expressed his satisfaction at the signing today of an agreement creating the Joint Argentine-Soviet Commission for Scientific and Technical Cooperation. Ambassador La Guardia said: Let us hope that this commission can begin to work this very year and that it yields good results.

On a different subject, the Argentine ambassador in Moscow said that he was gratified to see how the Soviet media unceasingly recall the events which took place a year ago at the Malvinas, defending his country's legitimate cause and attacking what he refers to as colonialist obstinacy against an Argentine sovereign territory.

The Argentine diplomat also noted that the maintenance and expansion of cultural ties between his country and the Soviet Union is a reason for satisfaction, recalling the successful performance of the artistic ensemble of the General San Martin Theater in Moscow, the equally successful performances of Soviet dancers as excellent as Pavlova, Vassiliev, Maximova, and the presentation of Soviet circus and folklore groups in Buenos Aires.

VISITING SOVIETS CONCERNED OVER TRADE BALANCE

PY251300 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 24 May 83 p 9

[Text] Two Soviet vice-ministers arriving to launch the final stage of the Salto Grande hydro dam on Friday expressed concern over the huge imbalance in Argentina's favour in the two countries' trade relations.

However, Nikolai Sneliakov (external trade) and Victor Lobanov (machinery) assured journalists that Soviet purchases of Argentine grain will not decrease as a result. Sneliakov refused to comment when asked if his visit was connected with the sale of turbines for the Yacyreta project but stressed the role of machinery in improving the balance of trade (Argentina accounts for only 25 million of Russia's 34,000 million rouble machinery sales in the last five years).

When told that Argentina has economic problems, Sneliakov replied that Russia has problems too but he also recognized Argentine efforts to improve the situation.

RESTRICTIONS ON GREAT BRITAIN UNDER REVIEW

PY260032 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 25 May 83 p 1

[Text] The national government is studying changes to several regulations related to the financial and commercial restrictions established on Great Britain as a result of the Malvinas conflict.

In this regard, a responsible source of the Economy Ministry revealed to LA NACION that the lifting of these measures is not under study but that studies are being made -- with the knowledge of the military junta -- for changing the law imposing restrictions "only from its regulating point of view" aimed at "giving more flexibility to the Executive Branch in the management of these delicate matters."

The spokesman explained that these changes under no circumstance give power to the Executive Branch to annul the restrictions. He confirmed the existence of this bill but explained that it did not originate in the Economy Ministry.

BRIEFS

ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR APPROVED -- The Argentine Government has approved the appointment of Ion M. Tudor as Romania's extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador to Argentina, the Foreign Ministry announced. Tudor is replacing Gheorghe Apostol, who has been accredited to Argentina since 1977. [Summary] [Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1534 GMT 18 May 83 PY]

CELLULOSE EXPORT -- Alto Parana Inc. has shipped 5,000 metric tons of bleached long fiber cellulose for Surabaya, Indonesia. This export, the first of its kind by the company, was shipped on the "Star Thailand" vessel, under Philippine registration. [Summary] [Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2157 GMT 6 May 83 PY]

TRACTOR SALES INCREASE -- Tractor sales have increased by 75 percent compared to the first 4 months of 1982. It is reported that the best selling firms sold 546 tractors during April 1983 and that 1,413 have been sold thus far this year. [Summary] [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 May 83 PY]

FORMER PRESIDENT, MINISTERS FACE PROSECUTION

PY251435 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1907 GMT 24 May 83

[Text] La Paz, 24 May (EFE) -- Gustavo Sanchez, Bolivian Interior Ministry under secretary, has reported that the Bolivian Government has decided to detain approximately 30 persons accused of committing fraud against the state under previous regimes, including former President Luis Garcia Meza.

Sanchez reported that the detention warrants were issued by District Attorney General Mario Rivero.

Among the persons accused of fraud are three former ministers of Garcia Meza: Generals Oscar Larrain, Julio Molina, and Commander Lijar Sossa, in addition to other authorities of lower ranks of the military regime.

Sanchez explained that the accusations are not political but that comply with strictly legal norms.

Garcia Meza has been granted asylum in Argentina, where he sought refuge shortly after the creation of the constitutional government of Hernan Siles Zuazo.

SAO PAULO FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' STRIKE SPREADING

PY251730 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1600 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] Sao Paulo federal employees, mainly of the social security area, have been on strike for 11 days. (Milton Flora) filed this report: [Begin recording] The Brazilian National Union of Public Employees (UNSP) has just reported that 70 percent of Sao Paulo federal employees have already joined the strike. Most social security and medical assistance employees are observing the strike. The UNSP will designate a special committee to travel to Brasilia to meet with presidential civilian cabinet members this week in an effort to solve this serious problem. On the other hand, during President Joao Figueiredo's stay in Sao Paulo this afternoon placards and leaflets are likely to appear calling the president's attention to the strike. [end recording]

VARIG DISCLOSES NOTE ON SALVADOR ARMS CARGO

PY260037 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Spanish 25 May 83 p 6

[Text] Yesterday Varig released a note explaining that it received a routine request from its agent in Panama for the use of a cargo plane to transport light ammunition from Europe to El Salvador and that Varig decided against transporting the cargo. The note says: "Regarding a report that its agent in Panama reportedly requested permission from Panamanian officials to transport ammunition to El Salvador, Varig explains that its cargo department received a request from a foreign client asking about the possibility of shipping light ammunition from Europe to El Salvador through Panama in a cargo plane.

The note adds: "As it is routing in these cases, the agent asked Panamanian officials about the possibility of authorizing the stopover. When the Varig head office in Rio de Janeiro learned about this case on 18 May 1983, it decided not to transport the cargo, thus annulling the routine request made in Panama to this effect."

In Panama, Cesar Rodriguez Maylin, director of Civil Aeronautics, identified the Varig agent there, Guillermo Golff, as the one who submitted the transit request for a cargo plane from Portugal to El Salvador. Rodriguez stated in an interview with the daily CRITICA that he never said that the Brazilian Government made the request. He pointed out that when Guillermo Golff made the request, he submitted authorizations, telexes and notes from the head office in Brazil.

In Brasilia, Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro said that Itamaraty had not received any request from Varig to fly over Panama carrying arms. He said that Brazil does not export arms to El Salvador because it supports the peace efforts of the Contadora Group.

AERONAUTICS MINISTER OFF TO FRANCE 25 MAY

PY260255 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] Aeronautics Minister Delio Jardim de Mattos leaves tonight for France at the invitation of the French Government to attend the Paris aeronautics exposition. The minister will also dedicate an office of the Brazilian Aeronautics Company in the French capital and will return to Brazil after 31 May, when he will end his official visit. Gen Bertholino Joaquin Goncalves Netto, chief of staff of the Air Force, will be acting aeronautics minister during Jardim de Mattos' absence.

SOUTH AFRICAN NAVY CHIEF ENDS VISIT 24 MAY

PY251312 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] Vice Admiral (Andrew Stephen) Putter, chief of the South African Navy, has ended his visit to Chile. Vice Admiral Putter and his wife were invited by Admiral Jose Toribio Merino. The high-ranking officer left the country yesterday after holding meetings with the defense minister, Admiral Merino and other top national authorities.

BRITON ORDERED EXPELLED FOR POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

PY251415 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] The government has ordered the expulsion of British subject (John Burns) for carrying out political activities in the country. (Burns) entered the country with a tourist visa in spite of the fact that the government knew that he had carried out an anti-Chilean campaign abroad. (Burns) was arrested during the incidents at the Artesanos Square on 1 May.

The authorities released him immediately and reported the incident to the British Embassy in Santiago. (Burns) was authorized to stay in the country as a tourist. However, the government found out that (Burns) later engaged in political activities in Pisagua. (Burns) is currently at large.

Since the British subject has not left the country, he will be expelled because the authorities now have evidence of his ill intentions and disregard for the authorities.

MINISTER REPORTED ILL, TEMPORARILY REPLACED

PY251410 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 May 83

[Craciela Contreras report from Government House]

[Excerpt] The government has made public that Deputy Army Commander in Chief (Julio Canessa) will temporarily serve as interior and defense minister [as heard] replacing Rear Admiral Patricio Carvajal. Rear Adm Carvajal is ill. The communique released by the Social Communications Agency adds that Lieutenant General (Canessa) will take over in keeping with the legal regulations in force.

JUDGE ORDERS RELEASE OF NINE LABOR LEADERS

PY251325 Paris AFP in Spanish 0311 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] Santiago, 24 May (AFP) -- The judge hearing the case of the 10 union leaders brought to trial in Chile by the military government after the national day of protest staged on 11 May, ruled today that there is no evidence to indict nine of these leaders and ordered that they be set free. These union leaders, who are also members of the Copper Workers' Federation Board, have been accused of violating the state's security law, and the Court of Appeals in Santiago designated a judge to hear the charges brought against them.

Judge Hernan Cereceda ordered the release of these leaders but postponed until tomorrow the questioning of Rodolfo Seguel, leader of the national day of protest and president of the Copper Workers' Federation. According to sources close to the government of General Augusto Pinochet, there exists the possibility of dropping the charges against these labor leaders.

Four Labor Leaders Jailed

PY260030 Paris AFP in Spanish 2249 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] Santiago, 25 May (AFP) -- Four Chilean labor leaders, who were held responsible by the military government for the 11 May demonstrations, were jailed in Santiago today. Miguel Seguel, leader of the Copper Miners Federation, was detained, along with three other leaders, on orders from the special judge who is investigating the charges brought against them.

The government of General Augusto Pinochet accused the leaders of violating the state security law by calling upon other labor organizations to join in the national protest, which resulted in the largest demonstration of opposition to the government staged so far.

[Paris AFP in Spanish at 0103 GMT on 26 May reports that the judge who is looking into the charges of violation of the Internal Security of the State Law that have been brought against the four labor leaders, including Rodolfo Seguel, arrested late today, ordered their release tonight.]

RIGHTS COMMITTEE LEADER ATTACKED IN SANTIAGO

PY250025 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1352 GMT 23 May 83

[Text] Santiago, 23 May (EFE) -- The Committee for the Defense of Human and Union Rights strongly condemned today the attack on its president and elderly national leader, Clotario Blest Riffo.

Blest, 84 years of age, founder of the Sole Central Organization of Chilean Workers (CUTCH) and head of the Chilean labor union movement for more than two decades, was attacked by an unidentified individual who entered his house in downtown Santiago. The elderly leader, who was a candidate for the Nobel Peace Prize for several years and who calls himself a disciple of Christ, Ghandi, Luther King [as received] and Che Guevara, survived the attack with minor injuries.

The Human and Union Rights Committee said in a public statement that the attack "had sectorial political connotations." The members of the committee requested "full and immediate clarification of the incident because we do not want a repetition of the murder of union leader Tucapel Jimenez (murdered in Santiago by unidentified indiviuals), a crime which has not yet been solved -- 15 months after it was committed."

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADOR TO COLOMBIA -- Major General Carlos Morales Retamal has presented his credentials to Colombian President Belisario Betancur as Chile's new extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador to Colombia. The new ambassador-designate is replacing Eduardo Parodi, who in turn has been transferred to the Chilean Embassy in Paris, France. [Summary] [Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 3 May 83 p 13 PY]

CUBAN VICE PRESIDENT'S BOGOTA COMMENTS 18 MAY

PA252026 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 19 May 83 p 17a

[Article by Jose Ramon Nunez]

[Text] Cuban Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez said in Bogota yesterday that his country is not intervening militarily in any Latin American country, "though we extend solidarity to all those that want to achieve independence."

Rodriguez came to Colombia to participate "as an apprentice in international economy" in a forum on the world crisis sponsored by ECLA. Rodriguez is the first ranking Cuban official to visit Colombia since the two countries broke off relations 2 years ago. Rodriguez, a man of medium height with a slight, graying beard, spoke to a small group of Colombian journalists, chiding one of them for asking "pro-imperialist" questions.

A select group of Cuban "Secretos" [secret service agents] is accompanying the high-ranking official, one of the most important ideologists of the Cuban revolutionary process.

Rodriguez reiterated charges regarding the "aggressive imperialist economy" of the United States and called for Latin American unity without ideological obstacles. Rodriguez said that the world economic crisis has not been felt as much in his country as it has in others on the continent, despite the trade blockade that Cuba faces. He recommended that Latin American unite in defense of its basic interests, because if this is not done, the economic situation in this part of the world will remain bad.

Rodriguez denied that his visit to Bogota is to initiate talks on a resumption of relations. "That -- the suspension of relations -- is no reason for me not to come to Colombia," the revolutionary leader pointed out. He refused to answer questions related to the notorious Libyan airplanes case, Cuban military advisors in Nicaragua and El Salvador, and the Cuban training of Colombian guerrillas on the island.

Union Without Barriers

Rodriguez met with President Belisario Betancur at 1900 in the aisles of the Proexpo Convention Center a little before the start of the ECLA meeting, which brought 20 Latin American economy experts together. They exchanged an affectionate greeting and Rodriguez agreed to sign an autograph for an admirer. Rodriguez also greeted expert Raul Prebisch and SELA Secretary General Carlos Alzamora informally.

He said that the Latin American economic system is worrisome and that the diagnoses that have been prepared to date depict a somber future. "For the first time in many years there is a generalized recession on the continent. Our GNP has not declined, but we are registering less growth than we calculated and less than we need," he said.

"As Cubans, we are concerned about this situation, which results from the structure of international relations and the internal defects in each country, among other factors. Inequalities have been deepened even more by a worldwide crisis in the capitalist system."

Rodriquez was of the opinion that the developing countries, which suffer the impact of the economic recession, are most affected by the crisis.

He commented on the U.S. economic sanctions recently imposed on Nicaragua by saying that they are part of a system applied to those countries that try to escape U.S. domination.

According to Rodriguez, these economic sanctions "were imposed on Cuba, and even on Ecuador and Venezuela, when they tried to protect themselves and to establish nationalist measures."

The Cuban Vice President intensified his attacks on the Reagan Administration, declaring that "it is the worst and most aggressive administration yet within the traditional imperialist system."

He indicated that the most serious factor is that when discrimination is intensified, certain Latin American countries think that they can benefit from the elimination of U.S. import quotas for basic products from those nations that try to escape U.S. influence.

Rodirguez also said: "The nations that benefit from a redistribution of the commercial quotas believes that their problems will be solved this way. However, the countries that obtained Cuba's sugar quota several years ago have since suffered the consequences. They are no better off today than they were before. On the contrary, they are worse off, because Latin America's disunity is the very thing that weakens us. We could be powerful if we were united and lived harmoniously, even though we do not have the same political systems."

Relations?

While explaining that his presence in Colombia does not signal an imminent reestablishment of relations, Rodriguez added that he personally could not ignore the importance of the ECLA and SELA convocations.

He also said: "I have not come here as my country's representative. Right now I am not the vice president. I have come here with concern to discuss Latin America's economic problems."

A Final Rebuke

A radio newsman asked him why Cuba criticizes U.S. interventionism when it faces similar accusations. His answer:

"With that question, you have already begun to serve the interests of those who want to divide Latin America. Division occurs whenever there is talk of Cuba interventionism. Cuba expresses its solidarity with all countries that struggle for independence, that is all. I regret to say that with such questions you newsmen only foster division."

HAVANA REPORTS ARREST OF UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

PA171225 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 16 May 83

[Text] The New Era Front [Frente Nueva Epoca] of the University of Asuncion Business School has denounced the arrest of student Abel Blanco, whom the authorities have accused of participating in political activities.

Blanco was arrested a few days after Paraguayan police arrested another student, Ruben Lisboa. Some observers said that the two arrests are part of a campaign being carried out by the Alfredo Stroessner regime against students of the Catholic University and the University of Asuncion, who have been accused of being members of a subversive organization.

POLICE SUBMIT REPORT ON COMMUNIST PLOT

PY252445 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 24 May 83 p 19

[Text] The Investigations Department has submitted a lengthy report to the acting trial court judge through the Judicial Department of police headquarters. The report refers to the detention of various people at the women's jail and at the national penitentiary on charges of violating Law No 209 (defense of democracy and freedom of the people).

It can be gleaned from the lengthy report that the activities of the detainees "are part of a vast and precise plan orchestrated by international communism. Parts of this plan have been implemented in a public and overt manner in our country."

The report adds that the police have been observing the detainees' activities for a long time, adding that they "denote a plot in full swing following precise foreign instructions and aimed at creating conditions necessary for the implementation of a totalitarian Marxist-Leninist system in our country." The Investigations Department refers to it as a "frustrated plot."

The document mentions Castro's Cuba and the Nicaraguan political plan pointing out that "we must not easily fall into the skillful tricks of this type of subversive -- who in some cases criticizes the Soviets to give the appearance of 'independence' and to deceive the unwary, but is really working in the service of communism."

The arrested individuals who have been put at the disposal of the courts are: Sonia Cristina Aquino Suarez, Margarita Raquel Elias Acosta, Benjamin Ramon Livieres Plano, Sonia Duque Pino de Arriaza, Fernando Esteban Rodriquez Zucolillo, Ruben Bernardo Lisboa Lezcano, Victorio Abel Grance Cantero, Silvano Presentado Acosta, Javier Antonio Joy Salomoni, Desiderio Arzamendia Lopez, Jose Ruben Miro Montes, Juan Francisco Arrom Suhurt, Agustin Federico Chamorro Orrego, Roberto Antonio Villalva Esquivel, Ernst Heinrich Gossen Martens, Hans Geor Gossen Marters, Margarita Mussi Frutos, Maria Raquel Rojas de Carmona, and Josefina Simona Frasqueri.

The Investigations Department attached to the report a photocopy of the statute of the Paraguayan Data Bank; Service and Consulting for Studies on the Paraguayan Labor Movement; three SINIESIS magazines; four copies of NUEVA LINEA; three copies of AVANZADO; two copies of GRECOS; and one copy of the Movement for University Reorganization.

The police say the vast and accurate plan was dismantled in time. The documents were submitted to the Eighth Court of Criminal Judge Ramiro Ayala Matto through the Secretariat of Marcial Belotto. The judge will start the legal procedures. However, it was disclosed that the judge in charge of this case may be different because it will be another judge's turn.

After explaining the circumstances of this case, the report submitted to the court says that the facts now under judicial investigation indicate a violation of Law No 209.

1 YEAR STRUGGLE ENDS; PILAR TOTALLY FLOODED

PY251540 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 25 May 83 p 11

[By correspondent Carlos Alberto Mazo]

[Excerpts] Pilar -- The waters have finally won and the entire city of Pilar has been flooded and left in darkness. Telephone service continues despite the fact that the Antelco [National Administration for Telecommunications] office has also been affected by the waters. Finally, after 1 year, the resistance has been broken and the waters from all sides, from the Paraguay River and the Neembucu Stream, have invaded the city.

The heart of the city, the radio station, which gathered all its experience and was so fully identified with this community, broadcasting and encouraging progress and cooperating with the development of Pilar, was shut off at 1330 yesterday as a premonition of the final outcome.

BRIEFS

GAS PURCHASE CONTRACT SIGNED -- Petropar [Paraguayan Petroleum Inc] signed a contract yesterday for the purchase of up to 20,000 tons annually of liquefied gas from Argentina. The first shipment will arrive by mid-June. This contract could trigger a reduction in the price of gas domestically. [Excerpt] [Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 7 May 83 p 11 PY]

ARPEL MEETING BEGINS -- The meeting of ARPEL [Latin American Reciprocal State Petroleum Assistance; Asistencia Reciproca Petrolera Estatal Latinoamericana] began yesterday in Asuncion. Delegates from 12 countries are studying a number of cooperation plans and reports on experience in the fields of research, exploitation, refinancing, and trading hydrocarbons. The presidents of petroleum companies from the hemisphere are expected to arrive today, and tomorrow they will begin deliberations on mutual assistance proposals. [Excerpt] [Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 3 May 83 p 9 PY]

CIVIL GUARD REBELLION REPORTED IN LIMA

PY251225 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] Lima -- Approximately 1,000 Peruvian Civil Guards rioted early this morning at the (?El Sexto) garrison in Lima. They staged this coercive measure in demand of better salaries and better working conditions.

The rebellion and seizure of the central police garrison took place at 0130 local time [0530 GMT]. Gunshots were fired into the air and tear gas explosions were heard during the past few hours, although there have been no reports so far of casualties or other details on the event.

TELAM Confirms 'Serious' Situation

PY251442 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1145 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] Lima, 25 May -- Approximately 1,000 Civil Guards, Republican Guards and Peruvian Investigative Police agents mutinied early this morning demanding better salaries and working conditions. The rebels virtually took over the headquarters of the 42d Precinct on Alfonso Ugarte Avenue of Lima (downtown area) where the so-called El Sexto prison is located.

Positioned atop the building the mutineers threw tear gas bombs on the streets and fired into the air, mainly from submachineguns. Using loudspeakers, the rebel policemen shouted antigovernment slogans and urged their comrades in arms to join the rebellion.

The first to mutiny were police agents of the Special Services Unit [USE], specialized in dealing with riots and protecting foreign diplomatic missions. After several hours -- it started at 0130 local time (0530 GMT) -- the mutiny seemed to be on its way to becoming the most serious one since 5 February 1975 when Lima was left without protection and thousands of demonstrators raided downtown stores. In 1975 the Army had to go in and clash with the mutineers; 150 persons died and it took the Army 2 days to get the situation under control.

Dialogue Begins

PY251705 Paris AFP in Spanish 1532 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] Lima, 25 May (AFP) -- A number of Lima police precinct stations, members of the Investigative Police and Republican Guards today joined the strike over salary increases which started early this morning at the station of the Special Services Unit of the police, according to spokesmen of this unit.

Using a local radio station the mutineers said that the government must not resort to the Army to break them down because "now we are no longer unarmed as we were on 5 February 1975," when Army tanks attacked police headquarters where the rebels had sought shelter.

According to the same sources, police officers who voiced their solidarity with their subordinates said that if violence were used against their subordinates, who are holding the 42d Precinct station of the police Special Services Unit in El Sexto complex, they would join the movement and take the side of the mutineers.

However, there are no signs that the government is planning to use force to change the minds of the rebels. On the contrary, according to the latest reports a dialogue between the strikers and the commander of the second region, Gen Jorge Monge Llanos, has started. General Monge went to the 42d Precinct station representing Interior Minister Luis Percovich Roca, for whom the mutineers had asked.

However, the details of the talks and the conclusions reached are not known. The mutineers are asking for substantial salary hikes and the implementation of an 8-hour workday, among other things. Spokesmen for the rebel movement said their strike has no political connotations; it is absolutely peaceful and nationwide. However, according to information received here this morning, police services are normal in other large Peruvian cities.

Relatives of the mutineers, their wives and children, who joined the movement and went inside the occupied station, said that 1 year ago a list of requests was submitted to the appropriate officials and to President Fernando Belaunde himself, but no solutions were found to the problem. Therefore, they plan to remain side by side with the strikers.

Percovich Ready To Negotiate

PY251815 Paris AFP in Spanish 1733 GMT 25 May 83

[Excerpts] Lima, 25 May (AFP) -- Peruvian Interior Minister Luis Percovich this morning asked the policemen who revolted in two Lima Civil Guard stations to end the revolt because he is willing to enter into a broad dialogue and consider their demands.

Percovich also said that the revolt, which began early this morning and was triggered mainly by salary demands, affects Station 42 and part of Station 34 in Lima. The minister reported that tranquillity prevails in the rest of the country and that the two other police institutions are fulfilling their duties.

The minister also said that draft organic laws of the three police institutions are under study and that he was willing to engage in an open dialogue to discuss and meet all the demands posed by those who revolted.

As the policemen in revolt, 50 or 60 according to Percovich, have requested negotiations with the interior minister, Percovich says that he is ready to receive their delegation, adding that there have been no reported injuries in the taking of the precinct buildings as it was done in a peaceful manner.

State of Emergency Declared

PY251920 Paris AFP in Spanish 1903 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] Lima, 25 May (AFP) -- The Peruvian Government today decreed suspension of constitutional guarantees in Lima and Callao Province. A state of emergency was declared for 3 days in view of the mutiny started this morning by police agents of two Civil Guards stations in the capital demanding salary improvements. At the same time, and in agreement with the Armed Forces Joint Command, the government ordered armed forces units to patrol the capital and explained that this measure stems from the breach of discipline of certain low-ranking elements of the police, insubordination which, although limited, affects the normal activities of this service according to a flash report of the official news agency.

The activities of the Civil Guard are normal in the rest of the country. This morning Interior Minister Luis Percovich asked the mutineers to cease their insubordination, promising them that their demands will be investigated.

Strike Ends 26 May

PY261135 Paris AFP in Spanish 1103 GMT 26 May 83

[Text] Lima, 26 May (AFP) -- The low-ranking personnel of the Civil Guard (Peruvian uniformed police) who were holding the 42d Precinct station in Lima, have left the station and returned to their tasks. The station has returned to normal after the policemen's requests were answered favorably.

HAVANA REPORTS STRIKE BY BANK EMPLOYEES

PA260357 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] Effective today, Peruvian private banks will stop operating during working hours in compliance with an agreement issued by the Federation of Banking Employees. The strike, which was postponed a few weeks ago when a dialogue with the government started, will be held in view of the failure of the negotiations.

The bank employees' demands include full job security for employees of two banks that went bankrupt in the past 2 years, a 40-percent salary increase, and compliance with collective agreements.

GOVERNMENT CONCERNED OVER NUCLEAR TESTS

PY251150 Paris AFP in Spanish 0132 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] Lima, 24 May (AFP) -- Peru has expressed to France its concern over the resumption of nuclear tests at the Muyisa Atoll, the Foreign Ministry reported today. The Peruvian position is one of concern about the possible implications such nuclear tests may have on the ecological balance and the environment in the Pacific region.

The spokesman revealed that Peru expressed its concern to the French Government regarding the development of new nuclear weapons which pose a risk for international peace and stability. Peru also called upon the government of President Francois Mitterrand to stop the nuclear testing program and to promote agreements to end such experiments.

NETHERLANDS PRIME MINISTER PAYS 3-DAY VISIT

PA250437 Paris AFP in Spanish 0147 GMT 25 May 83

[Excerpts] Caracas, 24 May (AFP) -- Ruud Lubbers, Prime Minister of the Netherlands, supported here today the Contadora Group in its negotiations for peace in Central America and stressed that The Hague has received with pleasure the group's initiatives. The prime minister added that "we are convinced that only the initiatives that spring from the region itself offer any hope of finding a solution to the Central American problem." He added that "these feelings are shared by our coparticipants in the European Community."

Lubbers said that "we promote respect for human rights wherever and whenever we can. We are convinced that the differences among nations should be resolved by peaceful means," and "we believe that all states deserve the freedom to direct their own destinies, without any interference."

During the second day of his official visit to Venezuela Lubbers and his committee, which includes Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek, had lunch with Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins at Miraflores Palace. During the feast the Venezuelan chief of state decorated Lubbers with the Order of the Liberator in the degree of the Grand Cordon. Lubbers said that the Netherlands and Venezuela both share the opinion that a new impetus should be given to North-South dialogue to guarantee that economic relations between countries will be truly advantageous for mankind.

Speaking of "the conflicts that could endanger world peace," the prime minister of the Netherlands stated that "all nations, although it is not an easy task, must help bring together the opposing parties, and if possible help find peaceful and fair solutions." "All of these principles -- respect for human rights, peaceful solutions to conflicts, nonintervention, self-determination, and admitting that socioeconomic injustice is at the root of dispute and violence -- seem to have inspired Venezuela and other countries of the region to start a joint initiative and to cooperate in what is known today as the Contadora Group," the prime minister added.

He also said that he is "proud of the strong ties that exist, and will continue to exist, between Venezuela and the Netherlands Antilles, Venezuela's neighboring country, an autonomous part of the kingdom." "The many existing contacts, at various levels, between the Netherlands Antilles and Venezuela can only result in fruitful cooperation and a broader friendship, a relationship that will undoubtedly continue prospering in the future."

In recalling the independence process of the islands, Lubbers told Herrera Campins: "You are undoubtedly aware that within the kindgom constant consultations are being made with an outlook toward the future of the islands, and that an agreement was reached recently in regard to certain principles relative to future development which we hope and believe will be adequate solutions for the benefit of all residents."

Tomorrow the prime minister of the Netherlands will end his 3-day official visit to Venezuela, which is part of a Latin American tour that includes the Netherlands Antilles.

COSTA RICA

POLITICAL LEADERS CRITICIZE NUTTING STATEMENT

PA251540 Paris AFP in Spanish 1156 GMT 24 May 83

[Excerpt] San Jose, 24 May (AFP) -- Ranking Costa Rican political leaders reacted against a recent statement by U.S. General Wallace Nutting supporting sending troops and more U.S. advisers to El Salvador.

Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge commented that "to us Central Americans, there is no need" to send U.S. troops, emphasizing that, on the contrary, "there are enough already" in the region. Public Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano merely reiterated the Costa Rican Government's position that "no nation should intervene in the internal affairs of others," voicing his belief in the principle of the "self-determination of peoples."

EL SALVADOR

U.S. MILITARY ADVISER ASSASSINATED IN CAPITAL

NC260609 Paris AFP in English 0609 GMT 26 May 83

[Text] San Salvador, May 26 (AFP) -- A United States military advisor was shot dead by presumed leftist guerrillas late last night as he waited for a friend in his car outside the Centramerican University to the southeast of the Salvadoran capital, officials reported. The adviser, whose name was given as Albert Schaufelberger, aged 32, was surrounded by a group of gunmen and hit four times in the head. Mr Schaufelberger is the first U.S. advisor to be assassinated in El Salvador.

As the attackers escaped, Mr Schaufelberger slumped over his steering wheel. Students immediately rushed him to the military hospital but first reports said he died on the journey. The shooting was confirmed by Government spokesman Fancisco Jose Guerrero.

The U.S. Embassy here later identified Mr Schaufelberger as a member of the elite "Seals" unit, adding that he was the 56th advisor to serve in El Salvador and was assigned to the navy. About eight months ago, another U.S. advisor was wounded during a reconnaissance helicopter flight in a combat area, on the Rio Lempa, some 70 kms (45 miles) east of the capital. This incident drew protest in the United States, where it was pointed out that military advisors were not authorized to carry out armed expeditions into combat zones.

DUARTE CRITICIZES U.S. INTERVENTIONISM

PA260020 Paris AFP in Spanish 1836 GMT 25 May 83

[By Jorge Contreras]

[Text] San Salvador, 25 May (AFP) -- During an interview with AFP, former Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte, leader of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], today declared his opposition to sending U.S. troops to El Salvador and condemned "some U.S. attitudes that exceed the levels of interventionism."

"The Salvadoran Army does not need U.S. troops to defeat the guerrillas, as was suggested last week by General Wallace Nutting," said Duarte. Nutting was until yesterday chief of the U.S. Southern Command forces in the Panama Canal area. Duarte is the PDC presidential candidate and has just returned from the United States and Venezuela.

"The increase in the guerrilla violence is what moves foreign government officials, and in this case Gen Nutting, to suggest that military aid be increased by sending troops," said Duarte. "However, ever since my administration with the junta, I have always rejected direct military intervention and President Alvaro Magana is doing the same now," added Duarte.

"I have said that my country needs military aid but in the form of advice, equipment, and arms, without increasing the number of advisers over 55, as we suggested 3 years ago," said Duarte. The PDC leader said that during his visit to the United States, he found in the last few days "intense concern" over the Salvadoran situation.

He explained that "civilian and military officials have observed an increase in the capacity of the Salvadoran guerrillas with actions such as the taking over of the city of Berlin in the eastern part of the country; the attacks on San Miguel, the country's third largest city; the blowing up of bridges; and others."

He added that "it is logical for some to believe that the situation is getting worse instead of better, but this does not mean that anyone is going to come and lead us in our own land, because the armed forces are capable."

He said that "what is dangerous is some U.S. attitudes that exceed the levels of interventionism." Among these, Duarte condemned the position of the U.S. Congress which set a 90-day deadline for the Salvadoran Government to find ways to hold negotiations with the FMLN and the FDR, if it wants any more aid.

Another interventionist attitude, according to Duarte, is the U.S. attempt to approve an amendment to the present aid that would require El Salvador to submit a 2-year government plan within 20 days.

"It -- The United States -- does not care about elections or anything else. It wants to know what is going to happen in the next 2 years. How are we going to solve the country's internal situation this way?" he asked. "No nation, no government could agree to having a foreign government impose a deadline and solutions to its problems. This is interventionism that exceeds all limits," said Duarte.

Duarte denied having U.S. backing for the December presidential elections. He said that the only backing he accepts is that of the Salvadoran people. The guerrillas have accused Duarte of being a U.S. instrument to impose here a government "with a democratic facade."

In rejecting the FMLN accusation, Duarte, said that "Christian Democracy would never lend itself to deals of any kind.

Duarte defended the citizens amnesty and rehabilitation law recently enacted by the Salvadoran Government, affirming that it has good intentions. "Naturally, one cannot give everything. The extreme leftists want everything and give nothing. Why don't they lay down their arms join the democratic life through the elections?" asked Duarte, to justify the basis of the law, which has been labeled as "selective."

"A law, even if it is exceptional such as the amnesty law, must always have its social limitations. One cannot release every prisoner because they would join the guerrillas rather than rejoin society," he said. Duarte said that "just as the left wants everything, there are other sectors that do not want to give anything and would prefer to keep innocent persons in jail. A moderate position is required in the face of these attitudes, like the one that has been adopted," he concluded.

REBELS DESTROY HIGHWAY BRIDGE, ISOLATE EAST

PA251531 Paris AFP in Spanish 1509 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] San Salvador, 25 May (AFP) -- Unofficial sources have reported that the Salvadoran guerrillas blew up an important bridge on the Pan-American Highway at the 78 km marker, in the central department of San Vicente, today. With the destruction of this bridge in the Junquillal area, the FMLN has virtually isolated the eastern part of of the country by way of the Pan-American Highway.

Department Commander Interviewed

PA252110 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 May 83

[By Raul Beltran]

[Text] This station reported earlier on the serious incidents on the Pan-American Highway near Km 79. We wish to advise the heavy transportation owners that this service will be somewhat curtailed by the destruction at dawn today of the bridge over (Quebrada Seca) at Km 79 of the Pan-American Highway.

We also want to report that the passenger and light vehicle traffic to and from the eastern part of the country continues uninterrupted with the establishment of an alternate route following the blowing up of the bridge.

Here is a recorded interview at the site of the incident with the San Vicente Department commander, Colonel Dionisio Hernandez. Col Hernandez heads a group of soldiers and is in command of the operation to locate the terrorists who at dawn today blew up the bridge killing several soldiers. [Begin recording] [Beltran] This is YSKL reporting from Km 79 of the Pan-American Highway, where traffic has been momentarily interrupted. Army units are trying to restore traffic by establishing an alternate route across the (Quebrada Seca.) We have here with us several members of the Armed Forces, headed by Col Dionisio Hernandez, commander in San Vicente Department.

Colonel, YSKL and other stations in network with it would like to learn about the incidents here in (Quebrada Seca) on the Pan-American Highway.

[Hernandez] What happened here today is happening in the rest of the territory where the guerrillas are trying to annihilate the people for whom they should be fighting. This demonstrates that they are against the people's interests as can be attested by all the destruction they are causing, such as the recent destruction of El Amatillo and other bridges in the eastern sector. They may be trying to isolate the area to cause still greater damage to the country.

[Beltran] It has been said that the (Quebrada Seca) bridge was blown up and that the troops engaged the guerrillas from 2100 last night until 0300 this morning. Is that true?

[Hernandez] Yes, it was one of the heaviest attacks staged in the country. Officers here estimated that some 2,000 terrorists entered the area in waves and attacked the military personnel posted at the bridge, which included 82 soldiers and an officer.

[Beltran] What happened to the troops, Colonel?

[Hernandez] So far, we have counted 30 dead, whose bodies we already recovered, and 30 survivors. The rest of the force must be hiding somewhere nearby.

[Beltran] They were not captured by the guerrillas?

[Hernandez] We have no knowledge of that yet. It may be some 6 or 7 hours before we can learn more about their whereabouts.

[Beltran] Col Hernandez, are the armed forces currently engaged in a combing operation in the Quebrada Seca area?

[Hernandez] Yes, we are trying to find some of our own units who may be lost in the area. In the case they are wounded we want to give them the necessary treatment and attention.

[Beltran] Will the alternate route established by the Army permit the traffic to continue normally to and from the country's east?

[Hernandez] Yes, as you know the Salvadoran people are dynamic and nothing stops them. At this moment, as you can see below along the river bank, traffic continues uninterrupted.

[Beltran] To conclude, was the officer who headed the patrol guarding the bridge killed, or did he escape?

[Hernandez] We have information that he was able to escape with some soldiers, but we have no idea where they are at this time.

[Beltran] There were the declarations made by the San Vicente Department commander, Col Dionisio Hernandez, whom we interviewed directly at the scene of the incidents. [end recording]

PAPER WARNS ON GOVERNMENT'S ECONOMIC SITUATION

PA252220 San Salvador EL SALVADOR NEWS-GAZETTE in English 23-29 May 83 p 4

[Editorial: "A Hazardous and Perilous Situation"]

[Text] Few persons, Salvadorans, foreigners, senators, and congressmen, understand just how successful the subversive strategy has been. They fail to see the hazards and perils of the situation. They are blindly unaware of the great dangers.

The subversive strategy is to sabotage the economy to create dissatisfaction among the people, reduce the offensive potential of the Armed Forces, disperse the Army in guard duty around the country, and destabilize the government by destroying its economic base. When a government cannot pay its bills, it is destabilized. The victories and defeats in this war are not counted in the number of dead nor the battles won or lost. They are a matter of statistics and the numbers are there for all to see.

1. The country lost more than 25 percent of its annual output since 1979.
2. There has been a one-third drop in the standard of living since 1979.
3. Private consumption is down 22 percent. Private investment is down 25 percent.
4. Public capital formation has fallen 42 percent.
5. Unemployment is estimated at 40 percent of the adult population.
6. Exports fell from $1.1 billion in 1979 to $740 million in 1982.
7. Imports declined from $1 billion in 1979 to $820 million in 1982.
8. Government's overall balance dropped from a surplus of $39 million in 1979 to a deficit of $241 million in 1982.

There may never be a replay of the fall of Saigon in San Salvador with the horrendous scenes of the bungled evacuation before a victorious army. But it will be just as tragic if the government collapses because its economic foundations have been completely undermined. It all adds up to a hazardous and perilous situation of which everybody should be aware.

REBELS FORM REGIONAL GOVERNMENT IN CHALATENANGO

PA260410 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 26 May 83

[Text] The clandestine Radio Farabundo Marti announced today that the FMLN formed a regional government junta in Chalatenango Department. The station noted that this measure was taken in view of the fact that the guerrilla forces control a vast area in this department.

This area includes Tejutla, La Palma, Citala, San Ignacio, San Fernando, La Reina, Agua Caliente, Nueva Concepcion, and others, some of which, the report stated, are on the border with Honduras.

According to the station, a regional people's assembly, the first of its kind, was held last week. Members of the local government junta, militiamen, the National Coordinating Board of the People's church [Coordinadora Nacional de la Iglesia Popular], and the Association of Salvadoran Women participated in this meeting.

FMLN'S GUAZAPA FRONT REPORTS 2 TROOPS KILLED

PA252030 (Clandestine) Radio Guazapa in Spanish to El Salvador 0130 GMT 25 May 83

["War Report" issued by the FMLN's Modesto Ramirez Central Front, Guazapa Hill sector, in El Salvador, signed by Commander Misael Gallardo -- read by announcer]

[Text] On 19 May, a squad of fighters under Companero Valeriano surprised and killed two enemy troops from the counterinsurgency detachment in Palo Grande. The surprise was so complete that our companeros recovered the two soldiers' rifles.

On 21 May, two of our People's Militia squads blew up three electricity poles at km 27 of the Troncal del Norte highway. This produced a complete blackout in the town of Aguilares and a partial blackout in the city of Chalatenango.

This information was provided by Companero Alberto, chief of the People's Militia at Guazapa Hill. Guazapa, 23 May 1983. The year of decisive battles. United to fight until final victory. Revolution or death, we shall win.

RADIO VENCEREMOS REPORTS ON FMLN ACTIVITIES

Nutting, Goldwater Cited

PA251704 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 24 May 83

[Text] General Wallace Nutting, chief of the U.S. Army's Southern Command, which is headquartered in Panama has asked that Reagan be given a free hand to take military actions in Central America.

According to THE WASHINGTON POST, Nutting said that the Reagan Administration has not yet done what is needed in El Salvador. For this reason, Nutting said, the guerrillas will continue to win the (?psychonomic) war as long as the United States remains unwilling to implement a definitive solution in Central America.

Nutting added that he does not know whether 200, 500 or 1,000 advisers are enough to obtain a military victory over the rebels in El Salvador and he criticized the U.S. Congress and media for opposing the Reagan Administration's warmongering plans.

Meanwhile, Senator Barry Goldwater, a member of the Republican Party and chairman of the Senate's Intelligence Subcommittee, endorsed Nutting's statement, asserting that the mere threat that U.S. troops would be sent to Central America would give an advantage to the United States in the present conflict. If I were president, Goldwater continued, I would say that if it is indeed necessary to save Central America, we should use our troops, our planes and our forces to gain advantages in the conflict.

U.S. 'Intervention' Scored

PA251712 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish 0230 GMT 24 May 83

["Analysis of El Salvador's national political situation and its international implications" read by FMLN Commander Mercedes del Carmen Letona, member of the Francisco Sanchez Northeastern Front Command and official in charge of the Radio Venceremos System -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] With the recent approval of a U.S. military aid, the Reagan administration has embarked on a dangerous course involving military intervention in our country. For the Salvadoran dictatorship, this development marks a definitive foreign imposition, both in terms of its military activities and its domestic political behavior. Thus, going beyond the Salvadoran dictatorship, the Reagan administration has determined both the dates and the results of future elections.

Before the debates on the approval of military aid for El Salvador began in the U.S. House and Senate, Jeane Kirkpatrick, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, visited our country, including in her agenda a significant meeting with the Central Electoral Council. Subsequently, the Salvadoran Government announced that the elections would be held on an earlier date, in December. This decision was upheld by the government, despite the many inconveniences pointed out by several sectors, including the coincidence of the election with harvest time and the fact that the electoral registry would not be ready for the new date established.

Only a few days after the U.S. military aid was approved, the dictatorship began considering a possible change in its decision; now it is discussing whether the elections set for December should be postponed until March 1984.

Obviously, the *initial hasty decision to set an earlier date* for the election did not respond to any internal political need felt by the dictatorship but was merely intended to provide Reagan with a card that would enable him to pressure the U.S. Senate and Congress. Reagan in fact, used this trump card more openly to soften his clearly warmongering speech with an offer to negotiate the manner in which the FMLN should surrender and participate in the U.S. electoral maneuver.

Both the dictatorship and U.S. imperialism are perfectly aware that these elections are certainly not a means of solving the crisis through the expression of the people's alleged will. It is obvious that the elections are a maneuver imposed from abroad and intended to create an international effect, and that the dictatorship has not minded the visits of several U.S. delegations to supervise its preparation, including the offer of technical advice and economic aid to finance the event. The expression of this foreign intervention has reached such a degree that a delegation of Salvadoran deputies recently traveled to Venezuela, also in search of advice and economic aid in preparation for the elections. Moreover, there now seems to be a dispute between the United States and Venezuela as to who will interfere more heavily to promote this maneuver. The dictatorship will show no scruples in accepting the dollars involved in this dispute. We can already say, however, that the dollars provided by the Reagan administration will be the most valuable.

The U.S. Administration, however, is not simply determining the date on which the elections are to held; despite its crucial demagoguery about respect for the people's will, the Reagan administration has already decided on the results of those elections. It is in this connection that U.S. Ambassador Deane Hinton is now playing an active role.

The struggle between [Christian Democratic Party, PDC, presidential candidate Jose Napoleon] Duarte and [Foreign Minister Fidel] Chavez Mena for the presidential candidacy led to an internal party crisis a few weeks ago. A variety of circumstances either favored or hindered each of the candidates involved in this crisis: Those who opposed Duarte claimed that he was already a spent political figure, since his commitment to a demagogic reforms program had rendered him a target for the Salvadoran oligarchy. Chavez Mena, in particular, held that position. Other views circulated among the PDC rank, and field, where Duarte was questioned because his old presidential ambitions led him to unscrupulous conduct, marked by commitment to the repressive policy of the fascist sectors in power, and because he had betrayed the effective implementation of the reforms program. On the other hand, the only weighty argument in favor of Chavez Mena was his connection to the nontraditional sectors of the Salvadoran oligarchy, like the (Oluma) family, whom he served as an attorney for years. Chavez Mena engaged in various activities abroad designed to contend with Duarte for the Venezuelan Christian Democrats' support.

In the end, the issue of the PDC presidential candidacy was not resolved internally by the Christian Democrats, because after several party assemblies, the last one held declared itself incompetent to resolve this issue and left them in the hands of the two leaders. Ambassador Hinton had already held talks with Duarte, Chavez Mena and other PDC leaders to express the U.S. Government's sympathy for Duarte. Theoretically, the election of the PDC presidential candidate should not result from a heated debate between Duarte and Chavez Mena, but in the end it was Hinton himself who announced his government's decision to endorse Duarte's presidential candidacy.

As for the private sector, the Reagan Administration's blackmailing card calls for providing it, through the new economic aid granted to El Salvador, with a huge sum allocated exclusively to it. Several agreements would also be reached with the government, establishing that loans would be granted to reconstruct the economic infrastructure, which has been sabotaged by the FMLN. Finally, Reagan would show his determined support for the Salvadoran Army, which is the oligarchy's fundamental support in keeping power.

The Reagan administration needs the new government that will emerge after the elections to reflect a certain degree of political stability. It does not want a government similar to that of Alvaro Magana, which it feels reflects a permanent state of crisis. It does not want a government that might include people like Major Roberto d'Aubuisson, since this would lead to the attachment of constant conditions to the military aid for the Salvadoran dictatorship by both U.S. Government sectors and the U.S. public.

The U.S. administration needs the PDC as a facade for the future government because the PDC represents an international political movement, which supposedly guarantees that the dictatorship will be brought out of its international isolation. The backbone of the U.S. strategy, however, is not political; it is not the election. The backbone of the U.S. strategy is military, and its purpose is to save the Army from defeat. This means that the U.S. Administration must promise increasingly exorbitant levels of military aid. Will the administration receive the support of the U.S. Congress and people for this? This will be possible only if Reagan justifies this military aid by claiming that it supports an apparent Salvadoran democracy. The election thus will play a mere supporting role in a strategy that calls for military intervention. Once again the Reagan administration is wrong, since no electoral-political formula or government facade can save the dictatorship from either its international isolation or its domestic political crisis until the foundations of fascist power are eradicated in El Salvador. Even if the PDC obtains formal power through the election, this would still not lead to a democratization of the power structures.

The Reagan administration is also wrong in trying to save the Army from defeat through regular and abundant military support. The Army's crisis is both moral and human, and it cannot be resolved with U.S. military aid. Its morale has been affected by the many defeats inflicted on it by the FMLN. The Army grows by bullying and forcing the people to join it through a forced-recruitment policy that has turned it into an Army without either conviction or fighting spirit.

We can draw the conclusion that there is neither an electoral-political plan nor a military plan to provide the dictatorship with a chance to win. The only thing that might prolong the dictatorship's existance for some time is the intervention of another army, and this is what the Reagan Administration is committing itself with the approval of more military aid.

It is not true that the U.S. Administration supports the Central American democracies; it endorses only those governments that serve its interests. It endorses the same oligarchies and criminal militarymen who have killed U.S. citizens in El Salvador. The U.S. Administration must now place in those very hands the alleged political-electoral solution for El Salvador.

Because of U.S. interests, a government like that in Honduras, where the process that was underway could have been geared toward democratization, has now turned into an obvious dictatorship instead, because the U.S. Administration favored the rise of politicians who were completely servile to its interests -- namely President Suazo Cordova.

This and the promotion of General Gustavo Alvarez, a well-known fascist, to the rank of chief of the Honduran Armed Forces represent the end of Honduras' domestic and external peace, as well as an aggravating element in the regional situation.

This is the kind of peace that Mr Reagan promotes in Central America. This is why he has now ordered his generals and his hawks to warn us that their Marines will come to El Salvador. This is not new to us. We are not scared. We fear neither intervention nor the prolongation of this war. We are ready to confront both. Our army, composed of peasants, workers and students, is ready to defeat them and to guarantee that hemispheric dignity will be respected in Central America and Latin America as a whole. We fear neither their technology nor their weapons. Mr Wallace Nutting and his Southern Command forces, or those brought from anywhere else, can come whenever they want. We will show them that no force on earth can subject a people who are determined to obtain freedom. We will defeat them, just as Cuba defeated them in Playa Giron, as Vietnam defeated them, and as Nicaragua is defeating them. Revolution or death, we will win.

New Military Campaign

PA260328 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 26 May 83

[Text] Radio Venceremos reports to our people and the nations of the world that the FMLN has started another military campaign throughout all the Salvadoran territory. [passage indistinct] As of this moment, we start this military campaign in which the FMLN will demonstrate the levels of unity and the capacity for coordination that we have achieved. We repeat: The FMLN has started another military campaign that we call "In Face of Reagan's Aggression, El Salvador Will Win."

New and even greater victories will be achieved with this new campaign "In Face of Reagan's Aggression, El Salvador Will Win."

We have begun our operations by dealing an overwhelming blow to the dictatorship's war economy. The eastern zone of El Salvador is practically isolated with the blowing up of the bridge at Quebrada Seca. It represents another staggering blow to the oppressors. We start our program by sending a revolutionary greeting to our forces in the Anastasio Aquino Front, who participated in the annihilation and surrender of the puppet army's troops that guarded the important bridge at Quebrada Seca, along the Pan-American Highway.

We will turn into dust every million sent by Reagan to the oppressors. The homeland will be for all Salvadorans or for no one." Long live the "In Face of Reagan's Aggression, El Salvador Will Win" military campaign.

HAVANA CITES VENCEREMOS ON LATEST FMLN ACTIONS

PA260231 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] Salvadoran guerrillas have seized an 8-ton truck full of weapons to supply army battalions. This action was carried out in a place on the road from San Francisco Gotera to San Miguel.

The rebels occupied Oratorio de Concepcion, 25 km northeast of San Salvador, in Cuscatlan Department. Radio Venceremos, the FMLN station, reported that the attack on Oratorio de Concepcion was carried out on Sunday and that the military detachment stationed there surrendered in the morning. Shortly thereafter, the guerrillas left town taking many weapons with them.

In Santa Ana, 66 km west of San Salvador, rebels attacked electric installations. It was also reported that a soldier was killed near the Guazapa Volcano during armed clashes in the region. Meanwhile, the media disclosed that two more soldiers were killed in unspecified actions.

Radio Venceremos reported on a guerrilla attack on the Agua Caliente bridge, 190 km from San Salvador. The bridge was being repaired following guerrilla sabotage. The rebel station added that an officer and at least seven soldiers were killed in this action and that many weapons were recovered.

GUATEMALA

'CONTADORA GROUP' DEPUTY MINISTERS ARRIVE

PA260333 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0107 GMT 26 May 83

[Text] Guatemala City, 25 May (ACAN-EFE) -- A special mission of Contadora Group deputy foreign ministers that is making a tour of Central America to prepare for next weekend's foreign ministers meeting in Panama, arrived in Guatemala City tonight from Honduras. The Contadora Group foreign ministers will meet in Panama City 28-30 May with the Central American foreign ministers to discuss the regional situation.

Julio Londono from Colombia, Ricardo Valero from Mexico, Oscar Vargas from Panama, and Leopoldo Castillo from Venezuela were received by Guatemalan Deputy Foreign Minister Edgar Sarceno. Tomorrow they will meet with Foreign Minister Eduardo Castillo Arriola and other officials in preparation for the Panama meeting. They will then leave for Costa Rica.

FOREIGN MINISTER CRITICIZES BELIZE'S PRICE

PA260238 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2204 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] Guatemala City, 25 May (ACAN-EFE) -- Guatemalan Foreign Minister Eduardo Castillo Arriola said today that Belizean Prime Minister George Price always "resorts to the same strategy in order not to lose British economic aid; that is, warning of supposed threats from Guatemala." The foreign minister deplored that Price "resorts to this method, because our country will not invade that territory."

Castillo Arriola made the statement in response to Price's visit to the United States. Price met with President Ronald Reagan, who promised him economic aid through private investment. Castillo Arriola insisted that the Guatemalan Government has repeatedly expressed its willingness to solve the dispute "at the negotiating table, without resorting to force at any time."

Recently the minister said that Price was using the "specter of the invasion of Belize" by Guatemalan troops so that the British troops can remain there and spend their foreign currency.

At the same time the local press praised the diplomatic talents of the Belizean prime minister, "who reached even the President of the United States" and editorially deplored "the manner in which Guatemalan diplomats have handled the territorial claims over Belize."

HONDURAS

TWO HONDURANS WOUNDED IN CROSS-BORDER FIRING

PA250428 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 24 May 83 p 2

[Text] Anti-Sandinist groups and Sandinist military forces were involved in an armed clash in a Honduran border sector between El Naranjal and Cifuentes at 1500 on Sunday. This clash lasted several hours. In view of this fighting, Honduran border residents had to flee the area to protect their lives, because machinegun bullets and mortar rounds were striking in Honduran territory during the clash between anti-Sandinists and Nicaraguan Government forces.

Marcos Rojas Gamero, a Honduran who works at a Cifuentes customs post, was seriously wounded as a result of this armed clash. A tresury policeman was also seriously wounded, but his name was not revealed because he was not carrying any documents to identify him. The wounded Hondurans were taken to Danli in a Red Cross vehicle, where they are receiving medical treatment.

PAZ BARNICA REPORTS NICARAGUA BORDER BUILDUP

PA251942 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1900 GMT 25 May 83

[Excerpts] Tegucigalpa, 25 May (ACAN-EFE) -- The Honduran Foreign Ministry revealed today that Nicaragua has undertaken a military mobilization of "unexpected" magnitude on the two countries' border.

Honduran Foreign Minister Edgardo Paz Barnica declared that Nicaragua's military presence in the border area leads one to think of offensive actions at a time when a new "Contadora Group" meeting in search of peace is being prepared in Panama. Paz Barnica said that he has been informed that the Sandinist Government has deployed over fifty battalions along its extensive border with Honduras, "which reveals an aggressive attitude."

Meanwhile, the Honduran Government announced that efforts are being made to render the country's foreign policy more flexible, while continuing to pursue important issues and negotiations on peace in Central America.

REPEATED NICARAGUAN THREATS CAUSE CONCERN

PA250412 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 24 May 83 p3

[Text] The Honduran Government has once again expressed its concern because of repeated threats against our country by Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto at the UN Security Council. The head of Nicaraguan diplomacy launched strong attacks against Honduras in his most recent speech at the United Nations last week, and reaffirmed that Nicaragua could begin a war against our nation. The Sandinist commanders have also been making this type of statement.

The attitude of the Nicaraguan foreign minister is in sharp contrast with the position of the Honduran representatives at the United Nations, who are seeking to find a comprehensive solution to the Central American situation. When they learned about the UN Security Council resolution, their attitude was one of respect and obedience to the decision of the top world organization.

In addition, the Honduran Government has stressed its firm intention to attend the next Contadora Group meeting to be held in Panama from 28 to 30 May. Honduras will be present as usual, with a conciliatory attitude, and the Honduran foreign secretary will be the bearer of very positive and encouraging proposals to try and reach a prompt solution to the problems that are affecting all the Central American countries.

APPOINTMENT OF ATTACHE TO PANAMA CANCELED

PA250445 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 24 May 83 p 3

[Excerpt] Honduras Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica officially reported yesterday that the appointment of General Enrique Chinchilla as military attache in Panama has been canceled by the government. However, he said, the appointment of Colonel Armando Velasquez Serrato as ambassador to Italy still stands. He explained that the cancellation of Chinchilla's appointment was a decision made by President Roberto Suazo Cordova and Armed Forces Chief General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, "considering the Honduran people's reaction in the wake of Chinchilla's appointment, which caused so much controversy and polemics."

Regarding Velasquez Serrato's appointment, Paz Barnica said: "It was a political decision."

FORMER MAYOR CHARGED WITH HELPING GUERRILLAS

PA250446 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 24 May 83 p 14

[Excerpt] Lorenzo Galo Galiano, former mayor of Caridad, Valle Department, and a member of the Honduran Christian Democratic Party, has been arrested by agents of the National Investigations Directorate (DNI), presumably accused of participating in the contrabanding of weapons for the Salvadoran guerrillas and collaborating with the FSLN. According to Galo Galiano's relatives, he was arrested by a group of DNI agents at the Caridad plaza at 1600 on Friday.

NATIONAL PARTY ADDRESSES NATION IN STATEMENT

PA191234 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 17 May 83

["Address to the Nation" issued by the National Party of Honduras -- read by announcer]

[Text] The National Party of Honduras wishes to address the nation to state its position on the country's grave political, economic and social crisis.

From its inception until the present itme, the National Party has always had a serious and responsible attitude toward the country's problems. This is why we have served as analytical observer of national events and of the current government's administration of the state.

The National Party feels that the nation is a synthesis of all of our activities and of our most profound feelings. For the National Party there is nothing greater, nothing of higher value or greater interest than our country. Honduras is worth all of its people's efforts and sacrifice. For this reason, we want domestic and international public opinion to understand the National Party's position on the country's problems, which urgently need the citizens' best efforts if we are to forge ahead in this difficult time.

Every government is interested in its people's welfare. The government that does nothing in this respect, that has no ideals, that lacks the energy and character to implement the changes that Honduras needs is a government that is destined to fail completely because of its mistakes and because of its lack of a historical mission.

The Government of Honduras believes that its power is boundless or it simply does not recognize the limits of power, thus demonstrating an arrogant attitude that will lead the country to ruin.

It is time to tell the government that the power it presumes to have is simply a delusion, which will destroy its authority, and that any attempt to achieve greatness on the basis of injustice, disloyalty, contempt and lack of respect for the citizens is unsound, based on false feelings and will collapse sooner or later.

The gravity of the moment rests in the fact that if the government collapses, it will take the whole nation with it, which is why every Honduran must realize what our mistakes have been, so that we can save our country, which belongs to all of us, although there are some who think it belongs only to them.

It is not enough to point out the government's mistakes. The whole country should honestly assess our foreign policy, along with our economic, social and domestic policies, so that we can determine what path to follow. If we do not, we will be contributing to the loss of our freedom. Where there is no freedom life is worthless.

Hence, the National Party of Honduras sets forth its position on these problems:

International Policy

The National Party has been in contact with countries with which we have diplomatic and commercial relations, as well as with countries with which we have no relations, to ascertain our country's image abroad. We have discovered two facts: 1) Never before in the history of Honduras has our country been the target of so much negative publicity abroad; and 2) Honduras' image, as a result of this publicity, is harmful to the country's vital interests, because it creates disbelief that ours is a peaceful and law-abiding country.

It is our opinion that Honduras is the target of all of this publicity abroad not because there is great interest in our country, but because it is in the middle of a convulsed area. Thus, it is imperative that we maintain daily contact so as to evaluate developments in the Central American conflict.

In view of the grave trun being taken by international problems in Central American and the obvious threat that they represent to Honduran security, the National Party feels that it is obligated to express its view on the country's foreign policy to the Honduran people.

In exercise of its right as a major political party of the Honduran people, the National Party declares:

1. The National Party considers that countries should hold serious and responsible dialogues in a civilized manner to solve any type of problem, whether bilateral or multilateral. Considering the negative outlook circulating in Central America regarding the use of dialogue, the National Party considers it necessary to find an intermediate and positive formula to prevent any disruption of the efforts for a dialogue, a formula that can be supported in a practical way by governments that are friends of this continent, as well as political sectors of Central America in a sincere effort to achieve the pacification of Central America.

2. The National Party basically agrees with the government's foreign policy with respect to the fact that we should live in peace, but it differs in very important aspects, such as the style and method the Honduran Foreign Ministry has employed in our country's foreign relations in areas of such importance as the following:

A. Honduras' foreign affairs have been handled with an absolutist exclusivism, shutting off the participation of all the other ideological organizations of the country, disregarding the fact that the decisions made by the Foreign Ministry seriously affected the Honduran people's most vital interests.

B. The negotiations carried out by the Honduran Foreign Ministry have been characterized by false and impractical theorizing and by an overwhelmingly erratic and ambiguous dialectic. This has in no way contributed to improving our international position but instead has put us at a disadvantage in key aspects of hemispheric and world diplomacy.

C. As result of this conduct, the harsh historical reality is that Honduras was set back by Nicaragua, which obtained a seat at the UN Security Council. Honduras also failed to obtain the presidency of the Central American Economic Integration Bank because of the sectarian attitude of the head of that institution. Our government was denied the opportunity to participate as an observer in the Nonaligned Movement meeting for trying to minimize Nicaragua's influence in that international organization. In summary, it can be said that Honduras' position at the OAS and the United Nations can be called weak, because so far, we have not received any voting support by the members of those organizations. Our position is also weakened by a lack of convincing and serious ideas supported by real facts that would permit our diplomats to present the true image of Honduras and adequately defend its legitimate rights.

3. Although it is true that under the Constitution the nation's foreign policy is the exclusive concern of the President of the Republic, nothing would be more favorable for Honduras' interests than to support a consensus policy drafted according to the views of Honduran political parties in everything that concerns the defense of the country's sovereignty and the preservation of the structures of the representative and democratic government. The whole future of the Honduran people is at stake, and that is why it is unwise and lacking in patriotism to deny the organizations that represent the people's will the right to express their opinion and to have their views taken into consideration when making decisions that could in the near future mean the consolidation or loss of our freedom, independence, and self-determination.

4. The struggle for the defense of the country's sovereignty is the concern of the Army, of the peasant who serves in it, of the worker who supports it, of the professional who contributes his ideas and leadership, of the industrialist who promotes its institutional development, and of the politician who wants its improvement and professionalism. That is why we must participate in the shaping of the country's defense resources, beginning with the planning of our foreign policy, which so far the Foreign Ministry has practically handled with its back turned to the people. We must not wait until the government is forced to ask all the citizens for their active, dynamic and patriotic support to realize that the government has made a big mistake in not cultivating in harmony and union the consciousness to unite all Hondurans in a single national purpose.

5. The National Party condemns, without tolerating any excuses, all attempts to undermine diplomatic channels and the countries' social and institutional systems, either by exporting subversive movements, unleashing terrorist campaigns, or by making the state the target of aggression that harms its sovereignty and territorial integrity, because we feel that man's life and dignity must be respected, since all men are created equal. Nothing justifies sacrificing man physically or morally.

Man must grow and expand by carrying out the social actions that the various historical periods of the evolution of states demand, but this growth cannot justify taking another's life.

6. The National Party reiterates its unconditional adherence to the democratic procedures that basically lie in the development of free, honest electoral processes that reflect the peoples' will; in respect for human dignity; and in man's free determination of his destiny, participating as an equal in production and in determining his own needs.

Economic Policy

Up to now, the national government has not been able to formulate an economic policy that responds to national needs, because poverty, unemployment, despair, and fear become more serious and widespread in Honduras each day.

The world economic crisis in the industrialized countries that turns us Third World countries into poverty-stricken countries definitely affects our economy. The dishonest attitudes of some Hondurans must also be condemned, and they must suffer the consequences of their actions, which are also partly responsible for the crisis.

The current situation, the continual drop of the purchasing power of our salaries, the growing unemployment that has reached worrisome levels, and the constantly growing cost of living -- the likes of which have never before been seen -- together with the government's admitted inability to handle the public treasury properly -- so much so that in the central government's budget alone, there is a deficit of 500 million lempiras as the result of the inability to check the squandering in the current expenses and to control the sharp drop in income -- have made the people fearful that bankruptcy might be declared at any moment, plunging the country into economic, political, and social chaos.

In order to contribute to the solution of this serious and difficult problem, the National Party proposes that the stability of the national economy be an immediate goal of our economic policy so as to establish bases for Honduras' economic growth.

This policy must be designed to reach its objective with the least possible social cost, and in any event, it must attend to the vital needs of the majority of the people of medium or low income on a priority basis.

The measures to be adopted should maintain the welfare of the Honduran people by eliminating or mitigating the negative effects of inflation and regaining the possibility of a growth in production.

Domestic Policy

With deep disappointment, we have witnessed the rash and flagrant violations of the Constitution and the destruction of the principle of the separation of the branches of state. With grave concern we have listened to our compatriots' cries denouncing the lack of respect for their most basic human rights.

We have also heard peoples organizations protest circumstances that favor repression, attacks on the means of survival, the sectarian manipulation of public offices, and the negation of justice, all of which harm not only a large majority of the nation, but also all those who assume a dignified posture against the abuse of power and the absolutist actions of those who currently occupy public offices.

We also see with concern how the forms of political behavior have been set back several decades, denying the natural process of evolution of political institutions and doctrines, and returning to a destructive cannibalism, to demagogic confrontation over the public interest, and to the search for personal sinecures rather than programmed social aid for the people's benefit.

Political morale has never fallen so low, to the detriment of the process of accepting, increasing credibility in, and strengthening democracy. The state is using a simple -- but eventually mechanical -- majority as well as its material power to establish de facto situations that distort the peoples' will as expressed at the polls, and to undermine the validity of representative democracy.

For these reasons, the National Party of Honduras is deeply concerned over the turn in the country's domestic policy. We therefore have to denounce the following facts and actions, only so the government can correct its course while there is still time.

Conclusions

1. The problems and conflicts that are destablizing Central America and staining it with blood have unpredictable consequences. Therefore, we Hondurans must develop policies that will move us away from the grave dangers of this crisis, but without adopting defeatist postures or shirking our duties in the concert of the world's nations.

2. Bearing these conditions in mind, the National Party would like both El Salvador and Nicaragua to solve their domestic differences and conflicts, inspired by the legitimate interests of their own countries and acting with autonomy on both the domestic and international scenes with a view to strengthening the Central American coalition, in order to orient their nations toward a democratic system of government by means of elections.

3. The National Party demands that the national government adopt an international policy in agreement with the principles already expressed, since to do otherwise would be detrimental to the interests of the Honduran people and would promote situations of conflict that might cause painful and irreparable losses.

4. Because it promotes peace and advocates the brotherly coexistence of all Honurans, the National Party condemns without reservation all types of extremism, whether from the extreme left or the extreme right. The victims of extremist violence are innocent citizens, who do not even know why they become victims of aggression, terror and death.

5. The National Party's repudiation of extremism is as intense as its adherence to the principles of the democratic system of government. We in the National Party think that no political system can equal the civic virtues of democracy as the ideal system to promote the welfare, personal dignity and happiness of the citizens, who are protected by their sovereign right to participate directly through free, fair and honest elections in the formation of governments that respond to their ideals and interests and that will become the best guarantee for their freedom and self-determination.

6. The National Party fervently calls on all organized sectors for unity, and invites them to make a pronouncement on the national interests in order to compel the government to report on its actions and correct its administrative conduct in the management of the country's destiny.

7. Based on the respect that one should have for the democratic principles that the Honduran people are striving for, the government must correct the policy it has followed so far by abandoning its arrogant posture in favor of the state's interests and adopting a consistent position that takes into consideration the opinions of the various political, social and economic sectors of the Honduran people.

8. In order to preserve the nation's peace and the Honduran people's democratic way of life, it is absolutely necessary that the government reestablish respect for the citizens' personal and social rights, and the legal and administrative practices that guarantee respect for human dignity and integrity, also that the government abide by the constitutional norms that support the autonomy and independence of the state's branches of government, the autonomous organizations and the armed forces.

9. The government must respect the wishes of the Honduran people and maintain the process of strengthening the democratic system by rejecting totalitarian maneuvers, efforts to remain in power and any other posture that tends to stimulate antidemocratic practices at variance with the Consitution.

10. Respect for religious and social institutions, as well as tolerance in the examination and solution of their problems, has been one of the bases of the Honduran people's harmonious and peaceful coexistence. The recent deviations from this healthy policy oblige the government to restore to all these institutions the respect for their individuality and their freedom and independence of operation, which have been harmed according to charges made by the Honduran Catholic Church hierarchy and numerous social, union and professional organizations of the country.

11. The National Party declares that the principles listed above were upheld by the last government of the National Party, which saw its political direction for the state frustrated by the forceful action that took place on 4 December 1972.

From that date until now, the responsibility for the direction of the country's destiny has fallen to other organizations and to the Hondurans who have personally participated in such public actions.

12. Once more, the National Party confirms its pacifist posture, its strict adherence to the principles and practices of international law, and its support for the strengthening of universal democracy; and it proclaims its firm decision to offer, in the name of the homeland, its every resource if Honduras' territorial integrity or sovereignty should be threatened. The National Party will support without restrictions the Honduran Armed Forces in the fulfillment of their constitutional mission.

13. The great, happy and respected homeland that was achieved in glorious anticipation by the minds of Francisco Morazan, Jose Cecilio del Valle, and other immortal figures that illuminate the gallery of our forefathers is the homeland that the National Party longs to raise from the darkness of the present so that its unfading light will illuminate our minds and hearts, and we can march with firm steps on the ascending path that the future Honduran generations will follow.

Tegucigalpa, May 1983. Social Justice with Freedom and Democracy.

[signed] The National Party of Honduras Central Committee: Rene Sagastume Castillo, Nicolas Cruz Torres, Juan Pablo Urrutia, Leonidas Rosa Bautista, Roberto Ramon Castillo Callejas, Lucas Zelaya Lozano, Jose Ramirez Soto, Roberto E. Cantero R., Jose Francisco Cordova A., Ruben Alvarez H., (Roberto) Duran Pineda, Hector Cordoba Pineda, Efrain Puerto Pozas, Gustavo Rodolfo Avila.

Political Commission: Ricardo Zuniga Agustinus, Mario Rivera Lopez, Manuel Acosta Bonilla, Rafael Leonardo Callejas, Fernando Lardizabal Guilbert, (Virgilio Hurmenesta Ramirez).

LIBERAL PARTY ISSUES DECLARATION TO NATION

PA240010 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 23 May 83

[Declaration issued by the Central Executive Committee of the Liberal Party of Honduras; date and place not given -- read by announcer]

[Text] The Liberal Party of Honduras, PLH, as the government party elected by the Honduran People, and in view of the irresponsible and malicious publication issued by the National Party of Honduras, PNH, which contains rash, contradictory and absoutely false statements, is compelled to make the following declaration to the public:

1. The PNH is the institution historically responsible for all the economic, social, political, legal, financial and administrative disasters in our country in the past, and thus has no right to criticize. Although the PNH document is not worthy of our attention, we have replied in view of our respect for public opinion.

2. Their manifesto tries to evade the absolute responsibility of the PNH for the total bankruptcy in public administration; since at the time the PLH assumed power the republic was in total economic prostration and could only be revived with heroic measures requiring sacrifice by all Hondurans. Their criticism is unacceptable, since PNH members held government positions from 1963 to 1982, and therefore they alone are responsible for the national bankruptcy.

3. The PNH leaders' judgment did not stem from a serene and responsible analysis. It was their way of distracting their followers' attention from their main problem: the moral and institutional crisis within the party, both at the rank-and -file and leadership levels. At the same time, along with the external ememies of Honduras, they try to destabilize Roberto Suazo Cordova's democratic and constitutional government.

4. Contrary to what the PNH has said, showing total ignorance of our true economic situation, we emphatically declare that despite the world recession, the reduction in the price of our export products and restrictions in the export quotas of these products, we as the governing party have managed to implement an effective economic recovery program. As a result, after only 1 year in government, our negative growth rate is less than in the other Central American countries. We have stopped the crisis, and we are reactivating our economy in order that it may conform to our social needs. This has been possible because we have thoroughly recovered international confidence and credit, after Honduras had lost credibility at government and private financial institutions.

5. Respect for public liberties, for the security of the state and its citizens, for our form of government, for social peace, for constitutional guarantees, and for the law have prevailed, despite the political upheaval and armed struggles in some Central American countries, for which the Honduran Government has no responsibility in view of its foreign policy of absolute neutrality with respect to other states' internal affairs. The PNH clearly accuses our Armed Forces of not respecting civilian and political rights when it says that the majority of citizens are living in anxiety and fear because the government has not been capable of properly safeguarding their lives and interests. Safeguarding people's lives and property is a constitutional duty specifically entrusted to the Armed Forces. However, the PNH has falsely accused the Armed Forces of not complying with this responsibility.

6. The Liberal government has always encouraged total respect for moral and social values, and has fought against administrative vice and dishonest practices, such as the illegal acquisition of wealth, embezzlement, or personal use of government property, which were common during the nationalist governments.

7. Honduras has been subject to negative publicity abroad, but not due to our government's neglect. This is an international campaign organized by the enemies of democracy that see in our country a serious obstacle to their objective of politically destabilizing the whole Centdral American region. Thanks to the ability, judiciousness, and strength of the Liberal government, we have been able to maintain normal international relations, following the principles of self-determination of peoples and nonintervention in other countries' internal affairs. With these accusations, the PNH has become an accomplice of the enemies of democracy.

8. The various courts in the country are complying with their duty of faithfully imparting justice, to the extent that whenever government officials have been found guilty of violating the law, they have been sanctioned accordingly.

9. The foreign exchange, production, fiscal and employment policies mentioned by the PNH are precisely the policies being carried out successfully by the Liberal government. The removal of certain public officials and employees is not being done due to political sectarianism but due to the policy of austerity and honesty that does not allow the presence of corruptible officials in the administration.

10. The PNH will continue without interruption the task of developing the country, encouraging its progress and safeguarding its territorial integrity, as well as struggling to ensure that peace, rights, liberty and justice prevail always, thus fulfilling the Honduran people's wish to live with eternal dignity

For the revolution of work and dignity. Central Executive Committee of the Liberal Party of Honduras.

NICARAGUA

U.S. ACCUSED OF UNDERMINING CONTADORA EFFORTS

PA260313 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] With its present policy, the U.S. Governemnt is trying to annihilate, through means, the peace efforts that the Contadora Group is making for Central America, Interior Minister Tomas Borge charge today. He as commenting on the U.S. position at the UN Security Council meeting requested by Nicaragua to analyze increased aggression against it.

The United States, Borge noted, is trying to exert pressure to destroy the unity within the Contadora Group and make U.S. positions in the region prevail. The Interior minister said that Nicaragua will continue to support the Contadora initiative as long as that initiative does not oppose the sovereignty of our homeland.

COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES KIDNAP TEACHERS IN WIWILI

PA251614 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 May 83

[Excerpts] The counterrevolution has once again demonstrated its hatred for those involved in teaching peasants. On Wednesday, bands of former Somozist guards kidnapped seven teachers in Wiwili. The kidnaped teachers are Pastor Galiano, Orlando Cordoba, Inocencio Rizo, Aristides Marlo, Arnulfo Cordoba, and Pablo Cordoba, a student [six names as heard]. They all worked as coordinators of the adult education program in that area. Their whereabouts are unknown. To date, 48 people working in rural areas on the Honduran border have been kidnapped.

We also have a report that 140 guards planned to kill the performers from Radio Sandino's "The Six O'Clock Train" program. The Sandinist Peoples Army [EPS] and State Security discovered the guards when they were planning to massacre the Radio Sandino personnel, who had been in Wiwili. At noon on Monday, 140 Somozist guards tried to murder the performers when they were returning from Wiwili to Managua. When the vehicles in which the performers were traveling were only a few minutes from the ravine in which the former Somozists were waiting for them, there was an emergency radio call from the EPS and State Security, which had been working to ensure that the performers' tour would take place without incident, and the vehicles stopped. Once the Radio Sandino performers were safely back in Wiwili, Commander Noguera organized a military operation to take the artists to a safe area.

6 COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES KILLED IN EL PORVENIR

PA251530 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] Six Somozist beasts died yesterday in a clash between the Sandinist Peoples Army [EPS] and a counterrevolutoinary group in El Porvenir, north of Jalapa. The Defense Ministry reports that six counterrevolutionaries died and that the band, composed of enemies of the Nicaraguan people, fled to Honduras with an undetermined number of wounded. The report notes that the EPS troops, defenders of the people, had no casualties.

PASTORA CLAIMS SUPPORT OF PEOPLE AGAINST FSLN

PA250309 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 24 May 83

[Interview granted to international correspondent by Eden Pastora, leader of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, Arde, "in the mountains of Nicaragua;" date not given; questioners not identified -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Pastora -- in progress] ...so we welcome you to these Nicaraguan lands -- this represents a great effort during the rainy season -- and we will speak through you to the outside world, the brother people of Costa Rica, all the Nicaraguans, the U.S. people -- that noble citizen nation that loves justice and peace. That humane nation has always stood by to help the suffering nations of the world.

I send fraternal greetings to all the brother nations that accompany us in this new liberation war, in our quest for peace -- the peace that all Nicaraguans deserve because they are a suffering nation, a cultured people, a hard-working and struggling country.

[Question indistinct]

[Pastora] Political conditions are optimal. Everything done or said by the FSLN National Directorate benefits us. Everything done or said by the traitorous collective works against their totalitarian policy. Military conditions are the toughest.

[Question] Does Eden Pastora's struggle remain totally independent of the struggle being carried out in the north by the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, FDN? Is there any link or agreement to form an alliance (?between your groups)? What is the situation, commander?

[Pastora] I can assure you and swear in the name of our martyrs, God, and my honor, that we have no link with the FDN. These are two totally independent, separate and different things. They do not resemble each other at all. We are struggling for a better life and future, without hate or revenge, full of love for our people, in search of peace and democracy. We have fought all our lives in this quest for freedom, peace, and democracy.

[Question] Under what circumstances would it be possible for you to establish an alliance with those in the North?

[Pastora] I do not think there could exist such conditions or circumstances -- unless they also seek the democratic rescue of the Sandinist revolution. If they also seek to rescue the original plan of the Sandinist revolution, we might talk with them. But I consider it unlikely that they will attain these conditions because they are anti-Sandinists and counterrevolutionaries.

[Question] In your opinion, how are the people divided at this moment in their support for the two fronts?

[Pastora] Look, we definitely have the people's support.

[Question] I was asking you what the people's position is concerning these two fronts against the FSLN National Directorate?

[Pastora] We have the people's support. Evidence of this is that barely 15 days after starting our struggle we have achieved considerable advances. We are fighting everywhere: Punta Gorda, Rio Maiz, Atlanta, Rivas, San Jorge, San Miguelito, Morrillo, La Azucena, (Nueva Guinea), the (Carlos Fonseca Amador) agricultural settlement, the Verdun agricultural settlement, El Sabalo, (Sabalo Arriba), (Boca del Sabalo) -- all these are war fronts. They are many. The National Directorate's position before us is weak compared with our dignified, Sandinist, revolutionary position.

[Question] Are you planning to rescue the revolution?

[Pastora] That is what we, the Sandinists, want. We want to rescue the original Sandinist revolution. It is a democratic revolution, with freedom of press and political freedom; it is nonaligned, without foreign intervention, without the intervention of the U.S. Government -- that is true -- but also without the intervention of the Cuban Government, or the Soviet Government, or the Bulgarian Government, or any other government. The revolution that Sandino taught us is a revolution that the Nicaraguans want and for which 50,000 martyrs died.

GRANMA 'IMPERIALIST HYSTERIA' EDITORIAL, PART 2

FL251520 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 25 May 83

[Part 2 of Cuba's Communist Party organ, GRANMA newspaper's 24 May Editorial entitled: Imperialist Hysteria, read by announcer; Part 1 of editorial was published in the 25 May Latin America DAILY REPORT -- live]

[Text] There was another subject addressed by Reagan where the lack of realism and the most rampant historical ignorance was particularly conspicuous. That was when he referred to economic matters. The chief of the White House, disregarding the results of his own economic policy, the objective of which is to make the rich richer and the poor poorer, believes he has the right to describe Cuba as fast becoming one of the most economically backward countries, thanks to the communist system.

Suffice it to recall that the most recent statistics of the UN's ECLA establish that the gross national product per inhabitant of the 19 major Latin American countries grew from 100 to 121 percent between 1970 and 1975 while Cuba registered a growth of from 100 to 148 percent between 1971 and 1975. In the following 5-year period from 1975 to 1980, in the 19 countries selected, the GNP went from 100 to 116 percent while Cuba registerd [a GNP growth of] from 100 to 133.3 percent in the same period. In 1982, while the combined economies of all of Latin America dropped in growth, Cuba registered a growth which, although moderate, was significant.

But the most admirable thing about our country is not only the growth of the economy and services, but the fair and equitable system by which they are distributed -- a system that has no match in the entire hemisphere. But how can you ask anyone to be proud of never having read a book or anything besides the comic strips? One thought about that; for that, one must have more intellect and culture.

Reagan must be ignorant, simpleminded and cynical to say that 1 million Cubans in the United States produced twice as much wealth as the 10 million Cubans residing in Cuba. In the first place, there are not 1 million Cuban citizens in the United States. If we were to make comparisons, however, just the work carried out by 230,000 primary school teachers, middle level and university professors, and 17,000 Cuban doctors produce more wealth than all the Cuban worms in the United States.

The U.S. Chief Executive has dared to assert before the representatives of the old society, which the revolution defeated and eradicated, that the pre-1959 Cuban economy was one of the most prosperous of Latin America. To what Cuba is President Reagan referring? Was it that Cuba of 1958 when 64 percent of the peasants did not own their lands and 33.5 percent of the labor force was either partially or totally unemployed or worked without pay? Perhaps he was referring to the country with 1 million illiterates, 600,000 unemployed, a similar number of children with no schools, and 10,000 teachers out of work at a time when we only had 6 and 1/2 million inhabitants?

The society for which Ronald Reagan grieves and which he wants to give back to his audience in Miami is certainly not the one that exists today, despite the [actions of] seven U.S. Administrations. A society which is proud among its social achievements, of having reduced infant mortality from 60 per 1,000 in 1958 to 17.3 per 1,000 in 1982, having provided a life span for its people 14 years longer than in 1958, and providing an education to more than 3.2 million inhabitants.

Reagan told his audience that the Cuban Government has a fascist nature. If we were fascists the relations between Cuba and Mr Reagan would be as excellent as they are with the genocidal regimes of El Salvador and Honduras; Pinochet and Stroessner; the South African racists; the Zionist aggressors; the puppets of South Korea; and whatever corrupt, reactionary, and bloodstained regimes exist in the world. Not even the comic strips preferred by Reagan express such gross absurdities and misinterpretations of history. The virulent anti-Cuban and counterrevolutionary tone of Ronald Reagan's speech on 20 May, other than the classic imperialist arrogance and impotence against the Cuban revolution, was dictated by the growing failure of his plans against the peoples of Nicaragua and El Salvador and by the setbacks of the current U.S. policy aimed at moving his country into a greater involvement in the Central American crisis.

There has been no recent shortage of voices, such as that of Senator Christopher Dodd, capable of linking the real reasons for the rebellion in Central America with the social injustices which friends of the United States, with their weapons and political and financial support, perpetuate under the sole recourse of limitless repression.

Confronting those in his own country who plead for a little sanity in foreign policy, on 20 May, President Reagan wielded the defense to the death [defensa ultranza] against those whom he called poor friends of the United States. Morally speaking, Reagan is not even comparable to the bad guys he used to kill in his cowboy movies. However, the mediocre spectacle of 20 May, despite its burlesque-like falsity, poses a threat we cannot ignore.

Our FAR is powerful today. We have 1/2 million armed and trained men and women in our Territorial Militia Troops [MTT]. To the MTT, which represents the will of our people to fight to the last man and on the last portion of our territory, we will add more and more combatants for whom we will no doubt find the necessary weapons, without counting on the weapons we would take from the enemy as the Mambises and rebels did. The response shown by 10,000 Pinar del Rio women to the revolution's call to enlarge even further the ranks of the MTT stands as evidence of the people's readiness to fight and poses the best barrier against imperialist aggressions.

This is one of those times when it is necessary to remind Mr Reagan, who may also have a bad memory, that -- as our commander in chief said when the intimidations against Cuba were mounting -- he deceives himself if he believes our people will weaken. Once again in Fidel's words: Imperialist gentlemen, be advised that the Cuban people will either live with their revolution or every man and woman will perish with it.

GRANMA EDITORIAL RESPONDS TO SENATOR GOLDWATER

FL251930 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] GRANMA carries an editorial with a headline quoting the Bronze Titan [General Antonio Maceo] when he said: Whoever may attempt to take Cuba will only get its dust bathed in blood if he does not perish in the battle. The following is our version.

Motivated and stimulated by the "show" [given in English] put on by Ronald Reagan in Miami, Republican Senator Barry Goldwater has emerged from a sewer to proclaim that Cuba ought to be invaded and converted into the 51st state of the union. How can we interpret these statements? Are we dealing with an insane person, an ultrarightist fanatic, or an isolated voice which represents none of the attitudes or policy positions of today's U.S. imperialism in any way?

The very appearance of this reactionary personality on a prominent program of one of the main television networks of the United States, serving as an echo for Reagan and his hysterical anti-Cuban allegations before the Cuban worms of Miami, demonstrates that these are precisely the ideas which are shaping present U.S. policy and the ideas which are giving way to the bitter propaganda campaign used by the Yankee administration to try to justify its warmongering, interventionist, and arrogant actions in Central America and in the rest of the centers of conflict, such as its attitude toward the problem of global peace versus global war.

Goldwater, in any case, may perhaps be just a little more open and frank in his statements. But the ideas he puts forward -- the ultraconservative philosophy that inspires him, the dreadful ignorance he shows, the lack of perception for the times in which he lives, his contempt for the people, his visceral racism, his mad desire to impose imperialist domination through violence and at any price -- form the essence of the political attitudes of Reagan, Kirkpatrick, Weinberger, and other prominent members of the team ruling Washington today.

This anachronistic call for annexation may be recorded in the already very long list of depredations, hegemonic ambitions, usurpations, and contempt for Latin America which conform to the imperialists' ideology and action against our peoples.

The Reagans and the Goldwaters of the last century did not vacillate in passing out instructions such as the following orders by Under Secretary of War Breckenridge to his generals on how to conduct the hostilities in the territories of Cuba and Puerto Rico at the turn of the century.

Cuba, because it is larger than Puerto Rico, has a greater population. It is comprised of whites, blacks, Asians, and mixtures. The inhabitants are lazy and passive. Obviously the immediate annexation of these individuals to our own federation would be insane. Before we can do that, we must clean up the country, even if it means using the same methods used by Divine Providence in the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. We should destroy everything within range of our cannons. We should establish a blockade in order that hunger and its eternal companion the plague may undermine the civilian population and decimate the Cuban Army. In summary, our policy should always be to back the weaker against the stronger until we achieve the extermination of both and are able to annex the pearl of the Antilles. Any similarities between the current statements of Adolf Reagan and Barry Goebbels are not purely coincidental.

But if ambitions to annex Cuba; the implicit contempt and racism toward Cubans; and the imperialist arrogance -- always backed by the use of force -- have been extensive, then our independent and anti-imperialist traditions -- which our fatherland's best sons have been able to define ever since they first confronted U.S. aspirations regarding Cuba in addition to Spain's aspirations, -- are even more deeply rooted and firm.

Marti wrote in 1889: It is likely that no Cuban with a shred of dignity would like to see his country linked to another in which those who shape public opinion share concerns in regard to him which are only befitting a boastful type of politicking or unbridled ignorance. No honorable Cuban would so humiliate himself knowing he is only being accepted as a pestilent individual for the mere value of his land in a society which denies his talent, insults his virtue, and despises his character.

The sad future the United States is determined to impose on Puerto Rico, despite the opposition of its people, will never be that of Cuba. If our Mambises were able to defeat the Army of Spanish colonialism, if after long years of enduring the neocolonial republic, the Cuban people were able to shed the yoke of the Platt Amendment and dependence on the United States and subsequently establish a true and free homeland in which they forge today an honorable destiny for its inhabitants, it will not be the Reagans or the Goldwaters who will alter the course of history and, much less, the shameful annexation attempt.

The times when the U.S. flag replaced our national flag in Cuba; when the presidents who happened to be in office spoke in docile Alamo-Yankee English; when hordes of Marines profaned the image of Jose Marti in the center of Havana; are part of a past with no return.

The statements of the Arizona senator are really serious if we take into account that Barry Goldwater is chairman of the U.S. Senate's Intelligence Committee and chairman of the Armed Services Subcommittee on Tactical Warfare, and that his lawlessness is in tune with the language spoken in the White House today.

Even before the present administration took office, Comrade Fidel Castro warned everyone about the nature which this administration would have and about the freedom which organizations such as the CIA would enjoy. He said: What can we expect from that institution now that Reagan's advisors assert they will have a free hand, or now that the chairman of the Senate's Intelligence Committee is going to be none other than Goldwater?

For over 100 years we have defended our right to independence with rivers of blood. We will defend it for another 1,000 years if necessary. Even if our island is invaded and occupied after a resistance which would know no parallels in history, the fight against the occupiers would never end. Cuba is not Austria -- which was betrayed, annexed, and occupied by Adolf Hitler in 1938 without a shot being fired -- because 10 million Cubans will know how to defend it to their last breath. Before becoming a state of the United States, we would prefer to disappear from the face of the earth. And if we are invaded, as already stated, many times the number of Yankee soldiers and officers would find their tombs in the sacred soil of the fatherland than all those killed in World War II.

Harbor no illusions. It would be good to remind Mr Goldwater and Mr Adolf Reagan and his band of reactionaries of the immortal saying of Antonio Maceo, our Bronze Titan: Whoever may attempt to take Cuba will only get the dust of its soil bathed in blood if he does not perish in the battle.

RICARDO ALARCON ON CENTRAL AMERICAN SITUATION

PM251409 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 23 May 83 p 2

[Interview with Cuban Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Ricardo Alarcon by Jose Comas in Bonn -- date not given]

[Text] Organized by the Friedrich Ebert Social Democratic Foundation, a 2-day symposium on the topic of "Cuba in the Eighties," attended by Cuban and U.S. politicians, has been held in Bonn. Cuban Vice Minister of Foreign Relations Ricardo Alarcon, who is descended from a family of Andalusians, took part in the debates in the FRG capital and granted EL PAIS an interview. With respect to the Central American crisis, the Cuban vice minister stated that "Spain should play a positive role in the search for peace."

Question: The symposium created the impression that only a "dialogue of the deaf" is possible between Cuba and the United States. Are relations between these two countries deadlocked?

Answer: The United States is not willing to talk with Cuba on the basis of respect for Cuban sovereignty and on a basis of equality. There can be no dialogue if there is not willingness on both sides. The first thing that must be recognized is the existence of an interlocutor and his right to be treated in the same way as yourself. The United States maintains an aggressive stance against Cuba -- a policy of hostility and blocking. On that basis it is obviously impossible to talk.

"Mexicanization of United States"

Question: In one of the discussions there was talk of a "Finlandization" of Cuba, which you denied "on climatic grounds." What are the ideological grounds for denying such a plan?

Answer: I also said that it is inconceivable in international law for a great power to have the right to determine another country's form or system [of government], however small it may be. Cuba could want the "Mexicanization" of the United States, and it would be a magnificent thing for Cuba to have Mexico as a neighbor to the west and also to the north. On what basis or right can another country be asked to modify its policy to make it acceptable to the United States? This has no legal basis.

Question: In this country there is talk of the "Cubanization" of the FRG. With the deployment of new medium-range missiles, is it possible that the deployment of the Euromissiles will be countered with the deployment of SS-20's in Cuba?

Answer: The answer would be that an arms limitation agreement must be reached and progress made in the direction of disarmament. The world cannot postpone this any longer. For Europe and the countries most directly involved in the so-called East-West confrontation, the importance of completely resolving this problem is obvious. For the rest of the world, as long as the arms race continues and the incredible sums which are wasted continue to be spent, these are resources which are denied to the Third World countries. The prospect is the threat of destruction and the threat of perpetuating a hopeless situation in the economic and social sphere. The accumulation of these factors could be catastrophic for mankind.

Question: There are grave doubts about Cuba's foreign policy as a nonaligned country. How far does Cuba's nonalignment go?

Answer: To the extent of being the movement's most recent chairman, handing over the chairmanship to India last March, and holding a conference characterized by the movement's spirit of unity. At that conference, authoritative voices of heads of states of countries in the movement expressed an assessment of Cuba's role within the movement which bears no resemblance to the speculation concocted outside; voices ranging from President Husni Mubarak of Egypt to the president of Bangladesh, the president of Zaire, or Omar Bongo, the president of Gabon, who are well known personalities without ideological inclinations similar to Cuba's. The Americans speak of confrontation within the Nonaligned Movement, but if you attend the meetings you will find it difficult to corroborate those assertions.

Question: The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan was condemned by many neutral countries. What is Cuba's stance on this matter?

Answer: The same as that of the movement, which has not condemned it.

Question: The conference of Islamic countries did condemn it.

Answer: We are not Islamic. The nonaligned countries have expressed their concern about those problems and attempted to seek political solutions. The movement's chairman -- Cuba -- authorized by the nonaligned countries, attempted to resolve those problems. Some approaches were made to Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran, and the countries involved, but our stance has shown no discrepancy with the Nonaligned Movement's stances either in this matter or in any other of importance.

"End Unfair Trade"

Question: How can an independent and nonaligned foreign policy be maintained with the dependence which Cuba has on the Soviet Union?

Answer: Cuba's so-called dependence on the Soviet Union: some people speak of an alleged subsidy, as if the Cuban economy were subsidized by the Soviet Union. The so-called subsidy is nothing but the preferential prices we receive for our sugar and the special prices we pay them for oil. This is nothing but a demand by the Third World countries, which have been pressing for over a decade at the United Nations to secure an indexing of products. It is the only way to end the unfair trade among countries. Cuba's alleged dependence on the Soviet Union is a trading relationship which not only does not contradict the principles of nonalignment, but constitutes one of the most deeply felt demands.

Question: After 25 years, could the Cuban revolution keep going without the direct assistance given by the Soviet Union?

Answer: No. After 25 years of revolution and 25 years of blockade, attacks, harassment, and sabotage, Cuba undoubtedly keeps going because of Soviet assistance -- it is an essential factor -- among other things. But if you mention to me one underdeveloped country which receives no outside assistance and has achieved some of the successes achieved by Cuba in the economic, social, and educational fields....

"We Attempt to Persuade Nobody"

Question: It is also said that Cuba acts as a restraining influence on Nicaragua's Sandinist government to prevent a repetition of Cuba's situation at a time when the Soviet Union could not support Nicaragua financially....

Answer: That is said by some people who spend their time speculating on the basis of prejudice. It gives the impression that certain circles in the developed Western countries find it difficult to realize that relations in the Third World are of a different nature. Relations among our countries are not relations of hegemony and subordination. We do not exercise that role in Nicaragua or in any other country. We do not attempt to pressure or persuade anybody to do things which are their exclusive responsibility.

Question: Cuba explains the presence of its troops in Angola and Ethiopia by the request for assistance against foreign invasion. In accordance with this logic, if the Sandinist Government sought assistance against an invasion of Nicaragua, would Cuba have to intervine?

Answer: We do not respond to hypothetical situations. It would be necessary to look at the circumstances if such a thing happened. I can tell you that they have not requested it. Moreover, the Nicaraguans know how to fight. The Somozas and the Americans taught them how for over half a century and the Somozist gangs are teaching them now. They are attacking and invading from Honduran territory, but, as often as they cross the border from Honduras into Nicaragua, they have to do the same in the opposite direction. The strength of the armed people of Nicaragua is demonstrating that it is very powerful and that they are able to repel the aggressors.

"United States, Unwelcome Guest"

Question: What is the Cuban proposal for a solution to the problem of Central America?

Answer: There are several problems, and each must be resolved in its context. There is a fundamental problem between Nicaragua and a country which is not Central American but is the unwelcome guest in all of them -- the United States. There is obviously an imperative need for a dialogue between those two countries, which will enable Nicaragua to coexist in peace and a normal relationship to be established.

There is a conflict between Honduras and Nicaragua which would not exist but for the United States. It is more than obvious that the Honduran authorities count for very little in the role played by Honduras as a base for aggression.

There are problems between Costa Rica and Nicaragua which are less important and are being discussed bilaterally. There is a problem in El Salvador which should be resolved on the basis first proposed by the governments of Mexico and France, which suggested a dialogue between the government and the guerrilla movement. These stances were supported by other governments and other political forces in the world. I believe that this is the only possible solution in El Salvador. The alternative is to continue a war which has proved the Salvadoran Army's inability to defeat the guerrillas and holds the danger of direct U.S. intervention in that country. There are various problems at the same time with the unwelcome guest's presence. In order to resolve them, a U.S. political will different from what Reagan announced in his speech to Congress is needed.

"Spain Has Great Audience"

Question: What prospects are there for Spanish mediation, or what role could Spain play?

Answer: Spain is playing an important role and could have more importance in the future. I would not speak of mediation, but rather of political support and the moral strength of the Spanish Government, which is linked for so many reasons to the countries of the area. Both the Spanish Government and Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez have expressed concern about the problems of the area. Moreover, it has a large audience in Latin America because it is a government that enjoys the sympathy and friendship of the peoples of the region, apart from being plugged into the Western system. Spain's voice should play a positive role in the search for peace.

Question: How are relations between Spain and Cuba?

Answer: Very satisfactory. It is difficult to imagine them better.

Question: There has ceased to be talk of Fidel Castro's visiting Spain.

Answer: I will not talk about it now, either.

Question: The Spanish press frequently speaks of the case of a Spanish prisoner, Gutierrez Menoyo. What is the problem which prevents releasing him after so many years?

Answer: Gutierrez Menoyo is a Cuban of Spanish origin, like almost 10 million Cubans, who is serving a sentence not because his grandparents were Spanish, but because he invaded the country with an armed group and with aims that are punishable in any country. Cuba is not the only country in the world where there are people who are arrested, tried, and punished for crimes of terrorism.

Question: Over the last few days it was reported that five people were sentenced to death in Cuba for attempting to found an independent trade union.

Answer: I have heard that some press organs published such a thing, and it is deplorable because every honest journalist should find out the truth. In this instance, there are five people who were not sentenced to death and who were not trade unionists....

Question: Do you mean that they were not executed?

Answer: No. They were not sentenced to death and they were not trade unionists, because four of them were not working -- that is the requirement for being a trade unionist -- and the fifth was a rural landowner. There was a sentence, but they were never sentenced to death but to punishment for crimes, because they are not trade unionists; they were lumpen elements.

Question: At the Bonn symposium, the Americans accused Cuba of encouraging drug trafficking to the United States. How do you answer that accusation?

Answer: The intellectual caliber of the people capable of making this accusation makes me wonder whether, just like other arguments by U.S. spokesmen, what they say has anything to do with drugs, which are a real problem existing in the United States.

JOINT COMPUTER COMMUNICATION PACT WITH SPAIN

FL252108 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1821 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] A joint project involving a system of information transmission by means of computers was agreed upon this morning at the Palace of Conventions between Cuba and the Intergovernmental Office for Information -- IBI and companies headquartered in Spain.

Signing for Cuba was Hector Rodriguez Llompart, member of the Central Committee and minister president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation. Daniel (Legras), president of the Institute of Automated Systems and Computer Technolgy, signed for Spain.

Participating in the project are the supplying firms, Spain's national telephone company, IBI Department of Projects, the Spanish Society of Communications, and others. The objective of the agreement signed today is the implementation of a pilot system for the transmission of information by means of computers.

Rodriguez Llompart said he was gratified by the signing of the document concluding the studies and preparatory work of the IBI, the Spanish suppliers and Cuban specialists. Those studies, he added, will be the foundation for the preparation of the final plan aimed at implementing that project, which provides for training courses for Cuban specialists in our country and in Spain. It also provides for the creation of two computer centers with minicomputers produced in our country and the hookup into the international (?mobile) system of Spain's national telephone company.

Rodriguez Llompart expressed the Cuban Government's gratitude for the cooperation it has received to IBI Director General (Fermin Bernasconi)

OECS FINANCE MINISTERS PREPARE FOR SUMMIT

FL252157 Bridgetown CANA in English 2148 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, May 25, CANA -- Ministers of finance from the seven-nation Organisation of East Caribbean States (OECS) met today to consider air transport and other major issues to be tackled by the heads of government summit Friday.

Among the issues on today's agenda were proposals to buy additional aircraft for the island-hopping Liat and plans for cheaper intra-regional travel.

The meeting, chaired by Antigua and Barbuda's Deputy Prime Minister Lester Bird, also looked at proposals for bulk purchasing of goods by OECS member states.

Matters relating to intra-Caribbean Community (Caricom) trade, air cargo freight applicable within the region, tariff harmonisation and a proposal for an OECS customs union were other issues to be dealt with.

Today's meeting was the third in four series of discussions leading up to the summit which is expected to concentrate mainly on trade matters. The seven OECS members are Dominica, Grenada, Saint Lucia, St Kitts-Nevis, Antigua and Barbuda, Montserrat and St Vincent and the Grenadines.

JAMAICA

SHEARER ADDRESSES SECURITY COUNCIL ON NAMIBIA

FL251942 Bridgetown CANA in English 1723 GMT 25 May 83

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 25, CANA -- Jamaica has told the U.N. Security Council that it rejected attempts by the United States and South Africa to link independence for Namibia South West Africa) to the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

"The Government of Jamaica joins with the frontline states, SWAPO (South West Africa People's Organisation) and the rest of the international community in outright rejection of the linking of Namibia's independence to the withdrawal of troops from Angola," the Jamaica foreign minister told the council at a session called yesterday by the African group.

"The two are separate issues and must be dealt with separately," Shearer said. Excerpts of the speech have been released by the Foreign Ministry here.

South Africa's white minority government has defied the 1966 revocation by the U.N. of its old League of Nations mandate over Namibia, and the United States is one of five Western countries comprising the so-called Contact Group charged with negotiating a settlement with Pretoria. The others in the group are Britain, Canada, France and West Germany.

However, the United States under the Reagan administration, has been promoting the removal of Cuban troops which in 1975 helped Angola fight off a South African invasion in return for the independence of mineral-rich Namibia.

Shearer told the Council that the issue of linkage was incompatible with its Resolution 435 outlining a plan of action for a negotiated settlement to Namibia's independence, and said that Jamaica was not impressed that the group had been able "to achieve the substantial progress which it claims has been made since the last Security Council debate on Namibia in 1981."

"It is also our firm belief that the persistent failure by some members to observe scrupulously the U.N.-imposed bar on military sales to South Africa, has only served to strengthen the hand of the racist Pretoria regime in its stubborn policies of defiance and intransigence," the Jamaica foreign minister said.

Shearer expressed concern over South Africa's recent moves to entrench itself in occupied Namibia, its most "outrageous aggression against neighbouring frontline states and warned that the issue placed the credibility of the United Nations in question.

In the only instance that the world body had assumed responsibility for a territory to bring its people to independence "the United Nations had allowed its authority to be flouted by a regime based on the vicious principles of apartheid which has usurped the territory and its people," the foreign minister said.

It was the fundamental role and responsibility of the permanent members of the Security Council to bring requisite pressure to compel South Africa to live up to its international obligations," Shearer said.

He added that the Council also had the duty "to maintain peace and security in southern Africa" where the frontline states had suffered from Pretoria's "unprovoked aggression." Shearer warned that the alternative to taking action now would be "more bloody and destructive activity in all of southern Africa."

DAILY ANALYZES COUNTRY'S PROBLEM WITH IMF

FL182330 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 16 May 83 p 8

[Editorial: "Jamaica and the IMF"]

[Text] Reporting in the course of his budget speech on Jamaica's position in respect of the performance targets prescribed under the Extended Fund Facility loan agreement with the International Monetary Fund, Prime Minister Seaga has disclosed that the country failed to meet certain requirements as there was a "breach of terms" at the end of the March 1983 quarter. The breach of terms was, according to Mr Seaga, due to problems with the balance-of-payments deficit but, in the negotiations with the IMF, the government had maintained that the breach was a temporary one.

According to Mr Seaga, the problem had been attributed to a shortfall in the foreign receipts as projected loan inflows from the international funding agencies and commercial bank sources had not materialised in time for the last quarterly test. The government was however, confident that the foreign exchange inflows, critical to the balance-of-payments deficit, would be realised later in the year and, consequently, had requested from the IMF Board a waiver on the breach which in all probability will be approved.

Mr Seaga has stated that the causes of the failure to meet the quarterly target were outside Jamaica's control, presumably because the government cannot control the timing of the receipts from the donor agencies. Nonetheless it also reflects a failure of the government to monitor the balance-of-payments situation adequately, and to make the appropriate adjustments to outflows in line with the changes in receipts. For example, last year the trade deficit climbed to $1,151 million as imports continued at a rate which did not reflect the decline in export earnings. It may be that the worsening deficit resulted largely from the need to satisfy the vital raw material and capital goods requirements of industry so as to generate production, but this does not decrease the need for vigilance. This however, cannot be used as an excuse, but rather it must be seen as a challenge to good management.

Moreover, this problem with the IMF serves to underscore the precarious position of the country's balance-of-payments for the delay in the arrival of a promised loan can make the difference between the passing or failing of an IMF test. It also demonstrates the weakness of the external sector of Jamaica's economy, and the need to build up the foreign exchange earnings from exports than actual development, hence the increased difficulties resulting from the loss in bauxite earnings.

The opposition leader, Mr Manley, as well as the leftists groups, have been calling for a renegotiation of the agreement with the IMF. We agree with the government's position that any re-negotiation at this time as a result of the breach runs the risk of imposing on the country far more onerous terms and conditions than the requested waiver would. We would expect that the government, as soon as the negotiations for the 1983-84 agreement with the IMF have been finalised, will bring the country up-to-date on the terms and conditions. For it is the country as a whole which will have to continue to adjust its consumption levels to ensure that the conditions are met.

JACKSON CALLS FOR NAMIBIAN INDEPENDENCE

FL252003 Bridgetown CANA in English 1655 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, May 25, CANA -- Guyana's Foreign Minister Mr Rashleigh Jackson today called on the international community to intensify efforts, including the effective enforcement of the relevant United Nations resolutions, to ensure the early political independence of Namibia (South West Africa), controlled by the South African Government.

In a statement to mark African Liberation Day today, Mr Jackson reiterated Guyana's "firm and immutable solidarity" with "the oppressed peoples of Namibia and South Africa" in their struggle to regain freedom and national independence. "We deplore and denounce the various strategies devised by the racist clique and their allies to perpetuate the illegal occupation of Namibia," Mr Jackson said. Stating that the South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO) was "the sole and authentic" representative of the Namibian people, Mr Jackson expressed the conviction that the struggle of Namibia "will be rewarded by the achievement of genuine self-rule in the near future. The independence of the Namibian people cannot be thwarted or denied forever," he said.

The statement also paid tribute to the "heroic people of South Africa for their determination to achieve independence despite increased oppression by the racist minority regime." Mr Jackson condemned Pretoria's "inhumane system of apartheid" and said "Guyana lends its whole-hearted support to the struggles of the national liberation forces in southern Africa and the front line African states in their relentless struggle to end oppression and racist domination in the region."

PNC CHAIRMAN SCORES SOUTH AFRICAN APARTHEID

FL252013 Bridgetown CANA in English 1620 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, May 25, CANA -- Chairman of the ruling People's National Congress (PNC), Cammie Ramsaroop, has called on Guyanese to re-dedicate themselves "to bring freedom and liberation wherever there is oppression, and in particular to the elimination forever of the evils of apartheid and other forms of colonialism from the African continent."

In a message marking African Liberation Day, Ramsaroop said the PNC is dedicated to the removal of apartheid and other forms of colonialism from Africa. "This policy and emotional drive to free Africa are the property of all Guyanese, irrespective of their political persuasion," he said. He said the PNC and the Government of Guyana had fought against apartheid and imperialism in every world forum and given material assistance in a variety of ways to the freedom fighters. He charged that South Africa's continuing occupation of Namibia and its "brutal assaults on the frontline states like Lesotho, Mozambique, Angola, Zimbabwe and Zambia," posed a threat to the peace of the region. Mr Ramsaroop said South Africa must be made to withdraw unconditionally from Namibia, and Namibia must be free.

"We are dedicated to freeing Africa because we know that freedom is indivisible. We know that if any part of the world is unfree, the pain will in some way affect us. It is therefore sheer realism and in our national interest that Africa must be free," Mr Ramsaroop added. He said Africa was close to Guyanese, "as the homeland of many of our Guyanese ancestors lie in the continent, and we are linked with Africa by bonds of history, community of interests and common experience." These factors, he said, "provide us with an even greater emotional imperative to work for Africa's freedom."

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

CONTADORA GROUP DELEGATION VISITS MANAGUA

PA250250 Paris AFP in Spanish 0049 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Managua, 24 May (AFP) -- A Contadora Group delegation visited Managua today as part of a tour through the Central American region, preparatory to the foreign ministers meeting that will be held in Panama beginning on 28 May.

The mission is composed of Julio Londono, deputy foreign minister of Colombia; Ricardo Valero, deputy foreign secretary of Mexico; Oscar Vargas, director general of foreign policy of Panama; and Leopoldo Castillo, a Venezuelan Foreign Ministry adviser.

In brief statements to the local press, the officials pointed out that this tour, begun today, is for the purpose of completing details on the subjects and mechanics of the Contadora Group foreign ministers meeting of Central America on 28 May.

Regarding their previous stop, San Salvador, they said they met great receptivity from the Salvadoran Government, which reaffirmed its decision to be present and to cooperate in the peace negotiations tha the Contadora Group is carrying out in the Central American area.

The mission will leave for Tegucigalpa, Honduras, tomorrow and will visit Guatemala City after that. On Thursday it will visit San Jose, Costa Rica.

MEXICO

RALLY AGAINST U.S., FOR PEACE IN C.A. SLATED

FL251005 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0220 GMT 25 May 83

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 24 May (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican organizations will hold a political rally here next Thursday to show support for all of Central America during these critical times, the Sole Trade Union of Nuclear Industry Workers (SUTIN) announced today. The march should contribute to putting an end to U.S. political intervention in the Central American region and fortify the initiative for a negotiated political settlement in Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Guatemala, SUTIN said in its plea to the Mexican people released today.

PANAMA

HAVANA ON SEIZURE, RELEASE OF U.S. SHIP

PA260317 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] A spokesman for the Panamanian National Guard has denied that the U.S.-flag ship "Lady Elena" was carrying a shipment of arms and ammunition for Central America. He added that the ship, which was anchored in the Atlantic port of San Cristobal [as heard], continued on to St Lucia in the Caribbean following a thorough investigation which had negative results.

GOVERNMENT TO INVESTIGATE U.S. 'SPY FLIGHTS'

PA260039 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2320 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] Panama City, 25 May (ACAN-EFE) -- Panamanian Foreign Minister Juan Jose Amado said here today that consultations will be undertaken regarding the charges of U.S. spy flights over Central America. The flights are said to begin in the Panama Canal Zone.

Amado said that the report was not issued by an official government source so "we must act prudently and investigate through the various institutions" of this country.

The high-ranking official said that the necessary consultations for a detailed and complex analysis will be carried out to see which actions are appropriate to the defense of the interoceanic route and which operations are not contemplated in the U.S.-Panamanian canal treaties.

Foreign Minister Amado said he does not know to which actions the report, issued by the international sources, were referring, whether these are past operations about which Panama has already expressed its concern to President Reagan or whether they are recent operations.

According to Amado, the Panamanian Foreign Ministry does not have the technical means to evaluate the report published this week the THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Citing Reagan administration officials, the U.S. newspaper disclosed that U.S. airplanes stationed in Panama carried out several espionage missions in Central America to try to stop the shipment of weapons to Salvadoran guerrillas.